

THE GUARDIAN

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There is hardly anything in the world that is more common than a little sense and a little common sense. But for quality...
Vent-Axia

Ministers see 'election for all leaders' as blow at Scargill

Thatcher pushing for new union law

By Colin Brown, Political Reporter

Further legislation on trade union balloting which would force the election of all union leaders is being considered by the Cabinet for inclusion in the Queen's Speech for the next parliamentary session. Mrs Thatcher is believed to favour another Employment Bill but ministers have been strongly arguing against such legislation on the grounds that it would be too provocative and counter-productive. They see it as aiming too specifically at Mr Arthur Scargill, who was elected for life to be president of the National Union of Mineworkers in 1982. In her first TV-am interview broadcast yesterday the Prime Minister said that she believed "more work" needed to be done by the Government on industrial relations legislation. She went on: "I think we have learned a good deal in the last year and I think we have some more work to do. It is not so much reducing the power of the unions - it is ensuring that members of unions have power. It is ensuring that the important thing is the important thing. That is the thing we started off to do. It has been this government who has restored or given more rights to members of unions to control their own union bosses and people have fought us all along the way, including some people who are in the Alliance. But we did it and we need to do more." It is claimed that the disputed Transport and General Workers' Union ballot for a new general secretary convinced Mrs Thatcher that legislation was required to force unions to publish the results of ballots at branch level and also to appoint independent scrutineers. Both issues surfaced in the first TGWU ballot won by Ron Todd, and the declaration of results at branch level is the subject of a current case in the High Court by a TGWU member.

Carpentent over Belgrano, back page

The result of the re-run ballot, in which Mr Todd and Mr George Wright, the original runner-up, are the only candidates is due to be announced next Saturday. The successful candidate will occupy the post for life under TGWU rules. The latest Tory legislation requires the election of officials like presidents and general secretaries if they have a vote on the union's controlling council. Mr Scargill has a casting vote, which he has consistently refused to use in the recent past. Mrs Thatcher firmly believes that many miners would like an election to be held for his post. Some ministers are concerned that even if such legislation was not retrospective it would be interpreted as a direct assault on Mr Scargill. They also regarded it as an unnecessary addition to the current legislation. Ministers argue that further industrial relations law legislation was not retrospective it would be interpreted as a direct assault on Mr Scargill. They also regarded it as an unnecessary addition to the current legislation. It is unlikely that the Government would insist that ballots be held by post and not at branches, given the sustained attack which ministers have resisted on this issue from Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance leaders. Legislation on the wages councils is likely to be included in the Queen's speech but ministers now believe the Cabinet will agree with Tom King, the Employment Secretary, on a mixture of abolition and reform, rather than outright abolition advocated earlier by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor. Wages councils, powers for young workers are likely to be abolished but their functions for other workers will be retained and reformed. One argument against abolition has been that more workers, deprived of the protection of wages councils, would join unions. Ministers are also disenchanted with Mrs Thatcher's determined effort to reduce the unemployment figures artificially by providing more training at government expense. The Chancellor expanded the Community Programme for the long-term unemployed in his last budget and this is due to be turned back page, col. 5.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Russian relief

SOVIET helicopter-borne troops have raised the 10-month siege on an Afghan garrison at Barikot. Page 7.

Poll outpost

BRECON and Radnor is a huge, rolling, romantic constituency which will have an official polling station for just two isolated voters in the coming by-election. Denis Johnson, page 2.

Nuclear fission

PROPOSALS for a nuclear waste reprocessing plant at Dounreay are welcomed by the Caithness town's council leader - but opposed by some residents and others in Scotland. Jean Sted, page 4.

No lobby list

A register of all private lobbying organisations at Westminster is unlikely to be recommended by the Commons all-party committee on members' interests. Page 2.

Caste deaths

CASTE violence caused at least 17 deaths in the Indian state of Gujarat. Page 7.

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The weather

COOL with showers. Details, back page.

US expected to 'broadly respect' Salt

From Alex Brummer in Washington

President Reagan is expected to announce today that the United States will broadly keep within the provisions of the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty but leave the door open for "proportional responses" to Russian violations of the pact. The Republican chairman of the Senate foreign relations committee, Senator Richard Lugar, said last night that Mr Reagan "will" announce continuing compliance with the treaty "but reserve the right to make exceptions too" as the Soviet Union has. The prospects of such a compromise immediately drew an angry response from Moscow. Mr Georgi Arbatov, the head of the Soviet US-Canada Institute, said on American television that such a decision would draw a "very negative response" from the Kremlin without specifying what it would be. He said prospects of an early summit between Mr Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev was unlikely, saying relations between the superpowers were "at one of their lowest points". In Moscow, Pravda said yesterday the US was preparing to wreck Salt II and would incur a grave responsibility if it did so. In an unsigned editorial, Pravda said the administration "is raising its hand against the very foundations of international stability and is getting ready to wreck the Salt II."

"The US leadership is treating a dangerous path. It should be clear to all that if the US Administration steps over that threshold, it will incur grave responsibility for all the consequences." President Reagan spent most of yesterday at Camp David, where his aides said he was studying a compromise document drawn up by his national security adviser, Mr Robert McFarlane. The paper was said to lean towards the view of his Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, that the US should continue to comply with the never ratified Salt II treaty. The Defence Secretary, Mr Casper Weinberger reportedly believes the treaty should be abrogated because of repeated Russian violations.

"Unless there is some monumental change of mind" by the President, he would say that the Administration intends to keep most of the treaty intact one official was quoted as saying yesterday. "Most people think that he will continue interim restraints that we have observed, but would reserve the right to take proportional responses to Soviet non-compliance." Mr Reagan is expected to tell Congress that he plans to take out of service a Poseidon class 10-missile nuclear submarine to make way for the new Alaska Trident submarine with 24 missiles. Instead of dismantling the Poseidon submarine - as strict compliance with the treaty would require - he is considering removing

the missiles and putting the vessel in dry dock. In addition, the President is prepared to announce that the US will press ahead with the development of the "Midgetman" single-warhead missile. Salt II forbids the deployment of more than one new land-based system such as the MX-intercontinental missile. However, the White House is likely to point out that the Russians are developing two new land-based systems, the SS-X-24 and the SS-X-25 - one more than is permitted. For the past week Mr Reagan has been getting advice from all quarters. He received a strong recommendation from Mr Shultz, attending meetings with Nato allies in Europe, that he keep within

the treaty. To break out, Mr Shultz said, would damage any long term prospects for the Geneva arms talks and hopes of pulling the Western allies along on development of Star Wars. The Republican Senate said last week the US should continue to uphold Salt II until December, 1986, as long as the Russians kept within its limits, but the resolution gave the President a free hand to respond to Russian violations of the accord; it is this loophole which will allow the Administration to make exceptions to the treaty when it so wishes. The Salt decision has been a particularly difficult personal struggle for the President because of his own comments Turn to back page, col. 7.

Belgian police admit mistakes

From Alex Scott in Brussels

The head of Belgium's paramilitary gendarmerie, General Bernart, has admitted in written evidence to an official Belgian inquiry set up after the Heysel stadium tragedy that there were too few of his men inside the stadium.

The general's report to the inquiry makes it clear that the deaths of 39 people took place an hour before they might have been expected, based on previous experience of policing football matches.

There were more than 1,000 gendarmes and Brussels police on duty at the Heysel on the night of the European Cup final, May 29, but it was the gendarmes' responsibility to keep order at the end of the ground where the tragedy occurred.

The general's report makes it clear that an earlier appreciation of the scale of the problem should have been made and should have led the local gendarmic commander to take command of the forces at the ground.

Overall command was, in fact, based some miles away

Honda not keen to sell engines to Austin Rover

From Michael Smith in Tokyo

The Government's attempts to restrict British Leyland's spending plans by forcing the state-owned car manufacturer to buy engines from Japan seem certain to founder on Honda's reluctance to provide engines for Austin Rover cars.

In Tokyo this weekend a senior Honda official expressed doubts over the group's ability or willingness to provide engines to Austin Rover for the Metro replacement due towards the end of the decade.

The Government told BL recently that it is prepared to approve a plan advanced in its five-year corporate plan, but a projected £250 million outlay on a new generation engine for the Metro replacement. Instead, the Department of Trade and Industry insisted, it should be bought from Honda.

BL has shown great reluctance to accept this condition, arguing that the group's future as a competitive manufacturer will be gravely jeopardised if it allows fundamental high-tech design and production to pass overseas.

The indication that Honda will reject any proposals to supply engines directly to BL from Japan will seriously embarrass the Government.

It has been attacked for its apparent enthusiasm to allow the keystone manufacturer in the UK car industry to abdicate its design function and face the danger of being transformed into a nuts-and-bolts assembly group.

Honda officials confirmed, however, that closer collaboration between the two groups, including the employment of Austin Rover's under-utilised facilities at Cowley to assemble

Honda vehicles, is at an advanced stage.

Mr Kiyoshi Ikemi, a senior executive of Honda's international planning department, said "We should be in a position to sign the agreement in a matter of months, if not sooner."

According to Mr Ikemi, the agreement is likely to bring the assembly of Honda's small family saloon, the Civic, to Cowley in the relatively near future, while discussions are progressing smoothly on another joint car development scheduled for the late eighties.

Honda firmly ruled out suggestions that it might be prepared to buy an equity stake in BL. The Government is in the midst of privatising the state corporation, although the public sale of its car manufacturing operation, Austin Rover Group, is still believed to be some way off.

The first link-up between Honda and BL came in 1979 through the Aedon; and the second stage a new executive car as produced in both Britain and Japan is due to be launched this year.

The Honda version, code-named HX, which will be produced both in Japan and Britain will be presented in November, while ARG's version code-named BX, will be launched next spring. The ARG model will also be produced in both countries.

The expected decision to assemble the Honda Civic at Cowley should bring important new work to British car components suppliers. Up to 70 per cent of the Civic's components could be sourced in Britain, according to Honda officials, who added that the Japanese group was very satisfied with the results of its collaboration with BL.

This week

Today

UNDERMINED
Even the strike's ardent supporters now call it "unbelievable". Agenda examines Labour's failure to campaign for the coalfields. Page 18
A TOUCH OF GLASS
Arts Guardian assesses the important influence and romantic rapture of Philip Glass. Page 9
MEDIA POWER
Even Lord Northcliffe was nothing like this. The Media Page outlines a plan for curbing the press barons. Page 11

Tomorrow

ARTLESS
What place for the humanities as higher education is urged to change course yet again? Education Guardian
Wednesday

Wednesday

MIND-TENDING
Community health centres are the new hope. But do they work? Society Tomorrow investigates
STAGE STRIKE
Celluloid hero struts his hour: Guardian Women meets Kevin Kline on Broadway
RISK BUSINESS
When it comes to assessing drug risks, we're usually better at shouting the odds than calculating them. Michael O'Donnell in Body and Soul

A united Ireland cheers McGuigan

From Paul Johnson in Belfast

IRISH people on both sides of the border, Protestant and Roman Catholic, prepared last night to welcome back their favourite son, Barry McGuigan, the new world featherweight boxing champion.

In his home town of Clones, County Monaghan, there was dancing, drinking, and delight in the streets until the early hours yesterday, while in Belfast, where the pubs were deserted and the roads silent during the television of the fight on Saturday night, a civic reception and parade is planned for McGuigan.

McGuigan, aged 24, a Roman Catholic from the Republic, married a Protestant, took out British citizenship and lives in the north, and has been seized upon by politicians and press as an example of how a bitterly divided society can be united.

McGuigan yesterday received

a telegram of congratulations from the Northern Ireland Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd.

The Irish Prime Minister, Dr Garret FitzGerald, spoke to the boxer by telephone soon after the fight in London in which he outpointed the long-reigning Panamanian champion, Eusebio Pedraza. Dr FitzGerald told the boxer that all Ireland is proud of his contribution to the cause of reconciliation.

In Clones, Mrs Katie McGuigan, who went to mass to pray for her son was carried shoulder high through the town. Virtually every building carried a banner supporting the Clones Cyclone.

The only upset to the general jubilation came early yesterday at the McGuigan family home above their supermarket in the central square. A fire gutted a bathroom, a kitchen, and a living room.

McGuigan's mother, sister, and aunt fled, but among the property destroyed were videotapes of every fight in the new champion's career.

Stalemate over Unifil hostages

From Ian Black in Metulla, Israel, and Julie Flint in Beirut

The crisis over the abduction of Finnish Unifil soldiers by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army was in stalemate last night after Israel failed to persuade the SLA to free 21 troops until 11 of its own men were released.

The commander of the SLA General Antoine Lahad, said from his headquarters in the South Lebanon town of Marjayoun that the Finns would not be harmed, but would not be allowed to go free until the militia men were released by the Shiite Muslim movement. On Friday the SLA threatened to execute the soldiers one by one.

The militia force, which is financed and trained by Israel since it took the prisoners in retaliation for what General Lahad calls the "kidnapping" earlier on Friday, of 11 SLA men.

UN sources said last night that Israeli army officers had been present with the SLA men holding the Finns since their capture on Friday. The Israeli claim they were "observing" the incident.

Israel and the SLA claim that the Unifil soldiers attacked a militia position, captured the 11 men, and then handed them over to Amal. Unifil sources deny this, saying the SLA soldiers defected.

Three other Finns captured on Friday were released on Saturday night, and the SLA said yesterday it was freeing a French colonel held "by mistake".

Unifil has lost touch with 19 of the Finnish soldiers. They have been moved from the village of Adaiseh to an unknown location in South Lebanon. The fourth Finn released last night, Colonel Venni Halaka, Turn to back page, col. 3.

Prayer in Chinese for Fitzroy dead

From John Beard, near Fitzroy, East Falkland

Two survivors walked forward and poured a can of beer and a can of orangeade into the earth in front of the obelisk inscribed with the names of their friends.

"Come back, you who have departed, to listen to the tranquil songs of peace," one of the 30, speaking a remembrance prayer in his own language, Chinese, said this South Atlantic islander. "Our thoughts are with you always, and may you rest in peace."

They picked up their carrier bags in which they had also brought offerings of fresh bread and fruit. Then Wan Ming, bosun of the boat, and Sun Jung Bok, assistant chef at the entrance to the

cove. Seven Royal Fleet Auxiliary crew - four of them Chinese of Hong Kong extraction - also died on the two vessels.

The obelisk provided these men with their own memorial. The cove is so small that although the monument stands on the west side it is only about 100 yards from the guards' cross. They make a nice balance," said Mrs Anne Greene, who settled in the Falklands with her son, David, after losing her husband, a 19-year-old, in the raid.

Both memorials are only 70 feet above the beach, where the victims were brought ashore. The black-clad islanders, the size of the tiniest Cornish harbour, is unnamed on Falklands maps.

After the attack it was confused by Ministry of defence spokesmen, journalists, and authors with Blue Cove, a bigger harbour four miles away which the Galahad and Tristram servicemen were trying to reach.

But the closest thing to a true name - Fitzroy, based on the settlement of 20 islanders one-and-a-half miles away - was restored for Saturday's service. The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, who takes over shortly as Chief of Defence Staff, flew from Britain to join a congregation which included survivors, settlement residents, and the crew of the RFA sister ship Sir Gerald.

Sir John, who read the 107th psalm - "They that go down to the sea in ships - at the cere-

mony, was asked later if he could conceive of Britain leaving the Falklands.

He said: "I have no doubt at all that it was a worthwhile cause. I can only conceive of one circumstance, while Falkland islanders continue to wish to live here and continue to make a success of it. That is when there is no longer a viable population down here."

"I don't believe it would be a reasonable situation to pull out simply because we could not afford to stay."

"Democracy is based on the wish of people to live as they would like to live. That's the principle of democracy throughout the world, and I don't see us doing other than upholding that situation."

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NEWS
IN BRIEFBlockade
miners
sentenced

FOURTEEN South Wales miners who occupied cranes at Port Talbot docks to block American coal being unloaded during the pit strike were each sentenced to six months' imprisonment, suspended for two years, at Swansea Crown Court yesterday.

They had all admitted unlawful assembly. Another 87 miners facing charges in connection with the incident are due in court next Tuesday.

Their pleas will be taken and it is expected that they will be dealt with in batches of 20 during a two-week period.

During the occupation at the end of last August, 103 miners were arrested. One has since died.

Woman, 45, has
Legion disease

A CASE of Legionnaires' disease has been confirmed in a 45-year-old woman at the Maudsley Hospital in Walsall, west Midlands.

A regional health authority spokesman said: "Her general condition is described as very poor and she has suffered a cardiac arrest and is being treated in the intensive care unit. It is likely this is a sporadic case."

Shi'ites still held
over alleged plot

EIGHT Shi'ite Muslims who are expected to be deported were still being held at Paddington Green top security police station in west London last night after questioning over an alleged plot to destabilise the government of Bahrain.

They were understood to have been questioned about terrorist acts in Bahrain where Ayatollah Khomeini of Iran is supporting Shi'ite revolutionaries.

Naval schools
to be closed

THREE land-based naval training schools and a Royal Marines barracks, all in the Portsmouth area, are to be closed, the Ministry of Defence said yesterday.

They are the school of seamanship and mine warfare at HMS Vernon, the fire-fighting school at HMS Phoenix, the communications training school at HMS Mercury, near Petersfield, and the barracks at Eastney. Much of the work will go to HMS Excellent at Whale Island.

Yearling sale
decision reversed

A HIGH COURT judge yesterday reversed a decision until Wednesday in the damages claim against the bloodstock auctioneers, Tattersalls, who deny that they negligently sold a colt of the 1982 sale in which Sulistash, a yearling colt, was knocked down for 430,000 guineas, only for the "buyer" to deny making the final bid.

The colt's original owners, Alchemy International, claim 230,000 guineas damages — the difference between the first price and the 200,000 guineas Sulistash eventually fetched at another sale. Alchemy also claim damages from a professional gambler, James Flood, who repudiated the 430,000 guinea bid.

Worcester plans
mini-bus service

A £1 MILLION scheme to provide Worcester with an entirely mini-bus service from autumn was announced yesterday by Midland Red West.

It plans a fleet of 400 minibuses, each with 21 seats and standing room for six passengers and hopes to create 80 jobs for drivers. The buses would run every three to eight minutes instead of the 15 to 25 minutes at present.

Engineer made
Imperial rector

A LEADING electrical engineer, Professor Eric Ash, has been appointed Rector of Imperial College, London from September 1, when the present rector, Lord Flowers, takes over as Vice-Chancellor of London University.

Professor Ash, who is 57, is the Pender Professor of Electrical Engineering and head of department at University College, London. He was an undergraduate and post-graduate at Imperial College.

London taxi
fares rise 8 pc

LONDON taxi fares are to rise by an average 8.2 per cent next month, the Transport Secretary Mr Nicholas Ridley, said yesterday.

OBITUARY

Swedish P.M.

FORMER Swedish prime minister Tage Erlander died at Stockholm yesterday, aged 84. Obituary, page 6.

THE GUARDIAN IN EUROPE	
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Long legal path of sacked miner cleared by court

"Misconduct" claimed the NCB, "victimisation" claimed the NUM. Peter Hetherington reports

ARTHUR Oxley, the pit delegate at Vane Tempest Colliery, Durham, this week received official notice from the North-east area National Coal Board that he will not be re-employed.

The one sentence message — given before the Commons employment committee urged the board to review the cases of 599 miners sacked for alleged misconduct — offered no explanation.

Mr Oxley was dismissed 20 minutes after returning to work on March 5, two days after the strike ended.

The manager said he had information — apparently from a private security firm — that Mr Oxley, aged 35, had been charged with a breach of the peace. It was area policy, said the manager, to dismiss miners in such circumstances.

At Seaham magistrates'

court on May 22, Mr Oxley, father of three girls, aged from four to six, was found not guilty.

Until a few days ago he was feeling cautiously confident of being re-employed — something different from reinstatement, which allows men to keep service benefits and pension rights.

Se-employed men — few are reinstated in the North-east, for even minor coal-picking offences — return at the bottom of the ladder.

Mr Oxley refuses to give up hope, but must now claim unfair dismissal at an industrial tribunal.

The episode illustrates the ever-widening gap between some statements from senior Coal Board officials on the issue of reinstatement or re-employment and the reality.

Mr Michael Eaton, the NCB spokesman, says that men will not be taken back where violence and intimidation took place.

In Mr Oxley's case there is no suggestion of either. Colleagues insist that he was singled out as a union activist.

"Nobody can have a better case than me," he insists. "I've every confidence of

winning at a tribunal but if the board cannot see it to take me back, what are they going to do to the borderline cases?"

"I thought the board would have no option but to be lenient after the case, but it's obvious they do not believe in natural justice or the law of the land. They're just out to victimise people."

His wife, Christine, says:

"They wanted rid of him. There was no violence at the pit. He may make an ideal test case for a tribunal — I'm sure he'll win — but I think the board would rather give compensation than give him his job back."

One North-east tribunal has upheld a coke worker's unfair dismissal claim — both parties were given four weeks to reach an agreement

before any order is made — while a Birmingham tribunal this week ordered the NCB to reinstate four Midlands pit men.

More cases are in the pipeline, but Mr Gordon Brown, the Labour MP for Dunfermline West, fears that the board would rather pay compensation through a tribunal than re-employ men.

Yesterday, Mr Brown, a member of the Commons employment committee, wrote to the Coal Board chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor, urging him to convene a full board meeting to consider the committee's report.

He accused the NCB chairman of "wholly misleading and inaccurate statements" by claiming that the board would operate the code of the Advisory Conciliation

and Arbitration Service on disciplinary procedure where practicable and appropriate.

Mr Brown said that in Scotland, where the board refused to re-employ any of the 203 sacked miners — there had been no attempt to operate this code, which lays down that a man should have a fair hearing, union representation and right of appeal.

A main cause of concern is apparent inconsistencies between various areas. In South Wales, 23 of 37 dismissed miners have been reinstated, while in Yorkshire 133 of 306 have been taken back.

Labour MPs, notably from Scotland, are now seeking meetings with Mrs Thatcher and other ministers to discuss the "inconsistency" in board statements.

Yesterday the area director, Mr Harold Taylor, offered to transfer 573 of the 810 workforce, and offered early retirement to the rest.

At the nearby Brookhouse colliery, scheduled to close at the same time, the board also offered transfers to 523 of the 668 men.

Unions were later considering reports of conditions at both collieries by their own mining engineers.



MONUMENT TO SECURITY: Two men and a dog behind the fence at Stonehenge, designed to keep out the hippies whose camp was sealed off by police.

Teenager stabbed policeman during raid
at sweetshop for £7 to buy cannabis

A teenager stabbed and nearly killed a policeman while stealing £7 from a shop to buy cannabis, an Old Bailey court heard yesterday.

Christopher Ogletton, aged 17, used a 12-inch butcher's knife to stab PC George Hammond, aged 48, in the stomach and chest. He was charged with robbery.

Ogletton went into a shop owned by Mr Kantil Patel, produced the knife and ordered him to open the till.

Ogletton took the money, at which point PC Hammond came in.

"In the struggle that followed, the officer was stabbed in the stomach, and slumped to the ground," said Mr Bevan.

Ogletton ran off with £7. PC Hammond had four operations and received 250 pints of blood, but lost both kidneys and will need dialysis for the rest of his life. He is still in hospital, with constant nursing.

Ogletton, of Lacey Road, Dulwich, south London, yesterday admitted wounding PC Hammond and robbery.

He told police: "I am sorry it happened — I wish the clock could be turned back."

Mr Bevan said Ogletton was

training to be a chef, and had no previous convictions. He had gone out, carrying the knife and partially masked with a scarf, intent on robbery.

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He told police: "I am sorry it happened — I wish the clock could be turned back."

Mr Bevan said Ogletton was

Known to Mr Patel and others locally simply as "George," he was not in full uniform and was not instantly recognisable as a policeman.

After the stabbing, Ogletton ran off, "clutching the proceeds of his crime — £7," while Mr Patel called an ambulance, said Mr Bevan.

Mr Bevan said that Ogletton at first denied responsibility, but then admitted his guilt.

Ogletton, said Mr Bevan, then added: "Me and the officer started to scuffle. All I can remember is my right hand went forward and it went into his stomach."

Asked why he had stabbed him, Ogletton replied: "I was frightened. I just wanted to get away. He later threw the knife and clothing away."

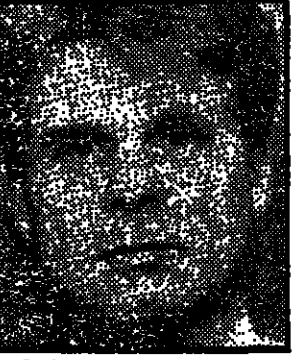
Ogletton told police that he had spent the money on bus fares and bought a drink and cigarettes, said Mr Bevan.

The judge adjourned sentencing for a week for reports.

The defendant came from a respectable church-going family, said Mr Woodley — it had been a one-off incident in an otherwise blameless life.



Christopher Ogletton: training knife



PC George Hammond — needed 250 pints of blood

Hearing on
Sinn Fein
exclusion

From Paul Johnson

A UNIONIST-DOMINATED

local authority in Northern Ireland claimed in court yesterday that it had the right to exclude Sinn Fein members because they would use council proceedings to further the aims of the IRA.

In a test case at the Belfast High Court a barrister representing Craigavon district council argued that the authority was entitled to turn over all day-to-day business of the council to a committee which omits Sinn Fein.

Mr Michael Lavery, QC, for the authority, said that Sinn Fein fully supported the violence of the IRA and so it was not unreasonable for the council to regulate its business in such a way as to deny comfort to an illegal organisation.

At yesterday's hearing, which arose from an action by Sinn Fein to have the council's manoeuvre declared illegal, it emerged that two councillors in Craigavon had been convicted of terrorist offences.

Mr Brendan Corran was gaoled for 15 years in 1975 for possession of a bomb and conspiring to cause an explosion.

Mr Brian McCann was given six years in 1971 for possession of explosives and arms. The convictions do not disqualify the men from becoming councillors.

Mr Brian Kerr, QC, for Corran and McCann, said that the action of the majority Unionist group on the council was illegal, unreasonable and unfair. He maintained that by excluding the Sinn Fein members it had exceeded its powers, acted contrary to its standing orders, and was motivated solely by political opposition to Sinn Fein.

Sinn Fein was not a proscribed organisation and the two men had been properly elected.

Mr Justice Hutton reserved his decision until next week. It will be awaited eagerly by the other 16 local authorities in the province with Sinn Fein representation.

● The IRA said yesterday that it will shoot contractors and sub-contractors involved in building a new police station in Londonderry if they do not stop work.

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Tax incentives
'depend on more
spending cuts'

By Paul Hoyland,

Welsh Correspondent

The Chief Secretary to the

Treasury, Mr Peter Rees,

warned yesterday that the key

to tax cuts lay in savings in

public spending.

He told the Welsh Tories

annual conference in Llan-

udno: "There are those who

say that people no longer want

tax cuts: that they would

rather the Government spent

more and more. I don't believe

it. I still believe people do

want to keep more of what

they earn to spend how they

like.

"We must keep up the pres-

sure savings in public ex-

penditure where we can find

them without damaging

essential services because the

only true way to tax cuts is by

the economy in government

than you practice at home

and in business."

Tax allowances were 20 per

cent higher in real terms than

in 1979 and the Government's

review of social security would

mean help would be targeted

on those in real need.

Rumblings of discontent

emerged at the conference as

delegates unanimously ap-

proved a motion urging the

Government to press forward

with measures to invigorate

the economy and create more

jobs by reforming the tax and

social security systems.

Mrs Susan Jones, of the

Montgomery association, said

the number out of work was

"a reproach to us all. I cannot

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cannot be reduced. Not only is

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terms, it is a vote loser in the

next election. It is a time for

bold measures."

The Foreign Secretary, Sir

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Labour's attitude often bor-

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their only consistent response

was a "knee jerk anti-

Americanism."

The Liberal and SDP parties

were divided and confused

with their policies ranging

from the responsible to the

eccentric.

In the wake of the Brighton

bombing last year security for

the conference was the tightest

seen in the principality since

the investiture of the Prince

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Peter Hetherington reports on a £20m jobs plea to the EEC as Tony Heath looks at the cost of saving Rhondda's last pit

Sacked BR men seek a new line in jobs

THE former works manager has started a joinery and timber firm round the corner from his old office: the chief accountant is helping to develop more small businesses nearby and the former shop-stewards' convenor has turned jobs salesman on behalf of the redundant workers he represented.

There are now some stirrings of enterprise in the County Durham town of Shildon a year after the final closure of the British Rail wagon works with the loss of 2,000 jobs.

About 130 men from the factory, once labelled a "jewel in the crown" of BR, have found alternative work in new enterprises. Thirty-nine small businesses have started up and the directors of a new development agency believe several hundred more jobs are in the pipeline.

But in the town (pop. 11,000) that forged the railway revolution 160 years ago and built the first steam passenger train, there is little immediate hope for many of the redundant workers whose unemployment benefit will soon end after one year.

Sedgefield District Council has done its best in difficult circumstances, but further Government cuts have forced its industry budget down from £1.3 million to only £800,000.

To compound the problem, Shildon was denied the automatic EEC aid which is traditionally channelled to many declining steel and coal communities.

Sedgefield, which has suffered a string of other factory closures over the past few years, is now approaching the EEC with what is claimed to be the most comprehensive aid submission from Britain to the European Development Fund.

It is seeking more than £20 million for Shildon and the surrounding district towards a phased programme of road building and improvement, factory building and industrial support and assistance—"measures to exploit the potential of internally generated growth", according to the submission.

Put bluntly, that means there is little prospect of any large outside industries

moving into the town. The emphasis will have to be on self-help and local initiatives to build up business.

The council will tell the EEC that there are now 7,100 unemployed in the area and only 144 notified vacancies.

After pressure, British Rail Engineering Ltd (BREL) last year promised £1.6 million spread over three years to help industrial revival.

The council formed an independent development agency with the help of Brel and seconded a senior official to run it from the old works offices.

The principal aim is to redevelop the 55-acre works site—laying new roads, modernising factory space and building workshops while promoting the town and providing practical advice and help with a range of grants. They vary from a £30 a week jobs subsidy to employers for one year to a business start-up scheme and rates relief.

The former works accountant, Mr Peter Robinson, left Brel one Friday in February and began work for the agency the following Monday to administer the grants structure.

Mr John Priestley, the union convenor, who chaired the local action committee fighting the closure, was also appointed to oversee the agency's employment register, which contains almost 1,000 names, and sell the skills of the workforce to other employers.

The works manager for the final year, Mr John Topham, aged 37, started a joinery and timber concern on the old site employing four people. He hopes to employ 20 after three years.

Mr John Robson, director of the development agency, is cautiously optimistic about the future providing the local council receives sufficient aid. He can point to the prospects of 160 jobs coming shortly in three new companies, and says redevelopment of the 55-acre site should soon be underway.

A local enterprise centre, run by the council, is also providing small units for entrepreneurs. Mr Robson cautions,

Financial crisis curbs Greenpeace campaigns

By Paul Brown

Greenpeace UK is suffering a financial crisis with debts of £170,000 which will force it to drop some environmental campaigns and dismiss staff.

The organisation, which refuses to accept sponsorship from big business because it might compromise its ideals, relies on donations from the public, sales of tee-shirts and subscriptions from its 45,000 members.

Greenpeace employs 14 people who are all paid a basic £45 a week plus some help towards rent. Each of its nine national branches is self-supporting. When the UK branch was founded in 1977, it had a turnover of £400. That has now risen to £500,000 and, until the beginning of 1984, income had kept pace with its campaigns.

It was then that Greenpeace was fined £20,000 after breaking a court injunction, taken out by British Nuclear Fuels, to prevent members stopping the discharge of plutonium into the Irish sea by blocking the Sellafield pipeline.

Although the fine was paid by public subscription, legal fees and the costs of running the Greenpeace ship, Cedaria, proved too much. The ship was sold last year, but costs have continued to outstrip revenue.

The current UK programme includes campaigning against nuclear waste dumping at sea, trapping wild animals for fur, and ending commercial whaling and seal clubbing.

Mr Peter Wilkinson, an international director for Greenpeace, said that people did not realise how much research and scientific study went into campaigns before they were launched. All this ate into funds but did not bring the publicity which prompts donations.

Mr Bryn Jones, one of the directors of Greenpeace UK, said: "Recently we had a £20,000 legacy which helped us stave off making difficult decisions, but now we have to face the fact that the gap between our income and expenditure is growing so wide that bankruptcy looms."

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'Little Moscow' pins hope on government change

A MASS meeting of the 720 miners at Maerdy, the last pit in the Rhondda Valley agreed at the weekend to a National Coal Board plan to reprove their colliery which is threatened with closure because of geological difficulties.

The scheme involves linking the pit under ground with Tower, a colliery on the other side of the mountain in the Cynon Valley. Coal cut by Maerdy miners will then be wound up Tower shafts.

This means that after more than a century no coal will surface in the Rhondda and 200 surface workers at Maerdy, known through the inter-war years as Little Moscow because of its militancy, will lose their jobs.

The NCB plan, which will cost more than £500,000, has been accepted by the miners as a way of preserving at least some jobs.

The Maerdy NUM lodge chairman, Mr Arfon Evans, said that the decision was taken partly in the hope that a future government would

increase investment in the industry. It was a holding operation.

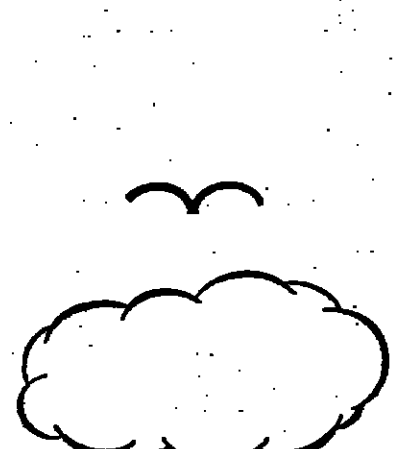
Seventy years ago there were 53 pits in the Rhondda, employing more than 40,000 miners. Nearly 10 million tons of coal were produced every year, netting vast fortunes for the mine owners and providing the energy for much of British industry.

According to a survey by Ms Alex Gray, a Cardiff social researcher, one man in three in the valley is now on the dole, 48 per cent of the housing stock is sub-standard and fewer than one household in two owns a car.

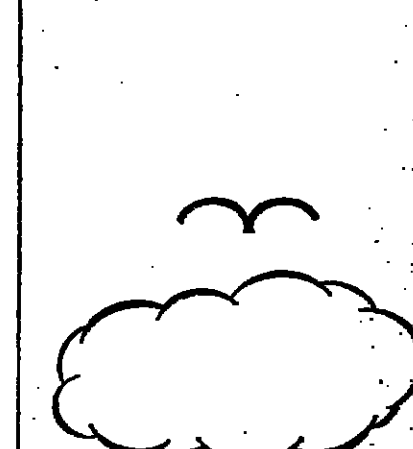
Of 463 districts in England and Wales, the Rhondda heads the deprivation league for the number of permanently sick, the rate of youth unemployment and the number of houses with outside lavatories.

The Wales Congress in Support of Mining communities—an alliance of political parties, trade union branches, local councillors and religious bodies—is campaigning to sustain the valley's one surviving pit.

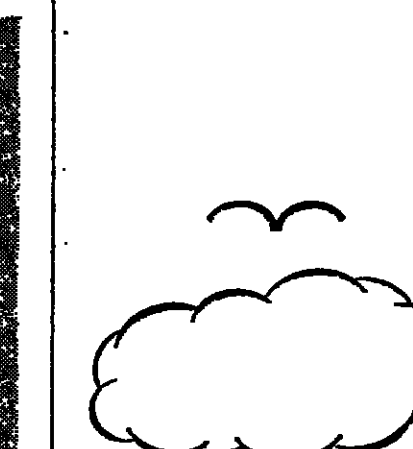
Former union convenor John Priestley (left) and development agency director John Robson—two of the Shildon pioneers seeking new jobs for an old rail town. Picture by Ted Ditchburn




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'Nuclear dustbin' project ends 35 cosy years of peace

Jean Stead reports on opposition to proposals for a plutonium reprocessing plant at Dounreay

THIRTY-FIVE years of peace between the nuclear research station at Dounreay, Caithness, north Scotland and nearby towns have been ended by the proposal to build a plutonium reprocessing plant there. It would serve Europe's new generation of fast breeder reactors.

The station employs 2,400 of the 28,000 people in Caithness. Most of the industries around are dependent on it and until now the station and population have trusted each other with good pay, pensions and public relations. Twenty-seven thousand visitors a year are taken round the plant and allowed to stand on the roof of the reactor.

Dounreay was the main research station for Europe's first fast breeder reactor, but is unlikely to have the first demonstration commercial reactor. It has been seeking. The Germans and the French are well ahead but Britain wants to serve the European programme of fast reactors continuing well into the next century.

Its opponents, including Mrs Winnie Ewing, Euro MP for the Highlands and Islands, Mr Jim Wallace, Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland, and Orkney and Shetland councils, say that the scheme would move the north of Scotland a "nuclear dustbin" like the area around Sellafield, Cumbria, and destroy fishing and farming.

The public local inquiry ordered by the Scottish Secretary, Mr George Younger, will deal only with the environmental impact and safety, not with national energy policy. Mr Wallace, a lawyer with experience in nuclear inquiries before he became an MP, is asking for it to be broadened by a pre-inquiry hearing in Edinburgh to include national issues before opening locally.

Opposition from Orkney and Shetland is powerful and well organised but Caithness Nuclear Reprocessing Concern Group is not. It is discovering the potential of trying to organise opposition to an institution which is important to the community.

The group has 350 signatures on letters asking for a full public inquiry, but members believe their phones are tapped, that their jobs have been threatened unless they give up their campaign, and that people have been told they will lose rights to a council house if they join.

Mrs Lynn Kropp, who has spent much of her life in the United States and lives in a farm outside Wick,

STORM BREWS: Dounreay nuclear research station, a mainstay of the economy in the Caithness area, where plans for a plant to serve Europe's fast breeder reactors have divided people near by. Robert MacLennan (top), SDP MP for the town, aims to defeat protesters like Jim Wallace, Orkney and Shetland's Liberal MP

said: "Except for the weather, I can't believe that this is Wick and not the Deep South." She leads the campaign against the plant with the help of her husband, a social worker.

A lawyer friend had arrived to examine her phone which she says emits odd screams whenever she starts to talk to anyone about Dounreay.

The group is led mainly by English couples of Scottish descent who have escaped to the north with young families during the past year or two and find it is not the haven they expected. They knew nothing about the proposal to expand the plant until they saw a television documentary last year. That was when the protest movement started.

It has been invited to a tour of the plant this week with the directors in an effort to soothe concern about radioactive leakage. However, members are already making plans to fight the proposals during the public inquiry, as is Orkney Environmental Group.

There is also opposition to Dounreay expansion from the Highland anti-nuclear group and the Highlands and Islands Fisheries Association.

How much these groups can coordinate their campaign to make an effective impact at the inquiry remains to be seen, but it persuaded the Secretary of State to call in

the original planning application on the ground that it was a matter of national concern.

However, powerful forces are ranged against the environmentalists. Caithness council and the Highland regional council are loyal to Dounreay, determined to override the protesters, and have the backing of the local Social Democratic Party MP for Caithness, Mr Robert MacLennan.

Caithness council is "non political", its convenor, Mr John Young, a prosperous farmer, said: "We welcome the development of Dounreay. We want to see more fast reactors being set up and Dounreay becoming the western European reprocessing plant."

"We have an excellent relationship with the management and complete confidence in them. Their safety record is one of which we can be proud."

He was "frankly amazed" by Orkney's attitude. "They have been fishing for all this time with no complaints about radioactive waste in the sea. Yet when the new plant is built there will probably be less, not more, radioactive matter in the sea."

Both Thurso and Wick had increased their populations fivefold over the past two or three years because of Dounreay and the loss of the plant would mean a large step into a past of deprivation and poverty.

The plant's union leaders agreed with him. Mr Alan Brown, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers chairman of the shop stewards' committee, came to Caithness from the Glasgow area 51 years ago with his

young family and says it changed his life.

The plant could not be compared with Sellafield, and had higher standards. "But if they introduce a new form of reprocessing the plant will be a step back to Europe as a fuel for fast breeder reactors and a rail link from an east coast port, probably Inverness, to which the waste would be brought by ship from Europe."

The plant would be able to produce 80 to 90 tonnes of new fuel for the fast reactors each year, compared with the 10 tonnes in the reprocessing phase. The plutonium which is to be burned as fuel by the fast reactors is extracted from the waste sent from Europe and then returned as fuel.

A 5,000 million reactor for the prototype Trident-carrying submarine arrived at the Vulcan naval establishment, next to Dounreay, at the weekend, brought from Barrow on a barge.

It is now being towed over the sea at a rate of a few feet a day on a specially constructed road. The reactor will form the prototype nuclear-powered propulsion for submarines.

Mr Jack Smedley, assistant director of Dounreay and an expert on reprocessing, said that BNFL would find the money for the plant and own it as part of a European consortium but the contract for operation would go to the atomic authority.

"We shall look after the monitoring and operate safe high levels of safety standards that we have always done. Who will be our masters at this stage we are not quite sure. It will be either

entry into the commercial plutonium economy."

It is a scandalous decision and must be seen as a method by which the fast reactor programme is to be foisted upon the UK without any discussion of overall energy policy," said the Greenpeace director, Mr Peter Wilkinson.

The Liberal Party has condemned the Dounreay inquiry restrictions. Its environment spokesman, Mr Simon Hughes MP, said the Scottish Office plans were "wasteful, ludicrous and dangerous" and "totally unacceptable."

The Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland, Mr Jim Wallace, had called for a two stage public inquiry, with the first part in Edinburgh dealing with energy policy issues.

She added: "Responsibility for matters of energy policy rests with the Secretary of State for Energy whose recent statement outlined the government's general policies on the UK's participation in the European fast reactor collaboration."

Mr Peter Walker, issued a statement two weeks ago supporting the nuclear industry's bid for a reprocessing plant at Dounreay.

Anti-nuclear groups are alarmed at what they see as a deliberate attempt by the Government and the nuclear industry to steamroller the development through. They point out that if the Dounreay inquiry is so restricted it will mean that there will be no effective public scrutiny of Britain's

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Inquiry restricted to local planning issues

GOVERNMENT plans to restrict the scope of the public inquiry into the proposed European nuclear reprocessing plant at Dounreay have angered environmentalists and politicians.

The Scottish Office is intending that the inquiry should consider only the "land use planning and environmental applications" of the proposed plant.

This will exclude consideration of energy and economic policy issues, as well as the risks of nuclear weapons proliferation.

It represents a change of policy compared to the 21-year Sizewell inquiry which was held in 1977, both of which were given broad-ranging remit.

that the Dounreay inquiry — announced last week — will begin in the autumn and last "months rather than years."

Highland Regional Council the local planning authority, is advertising the joint planning application from British Nuclear Fuels Ltd and the UK Atomic Energy Authority in the Scottish press this week, and asking for representations to be submitted within three weeks. It will be for the Scottish Secretary, Mr George Younger, to decide when, where and under whom the inquiry will take place.

A Scottish Office spokeswoman confirmed that only local planning issues will be deemed relevant, although these would include plant safety, radioactive discharges and the transport of plutonium.

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The Scottish Office hopes

Government treads softly as Greenwich ends rate defiance

By David Rose

There were signs yesterday that the Government is still determined to confront the council with Labour councils which delayed or have still not fixed their rates. This is despite the legal deadline, after which councillors would be personally liable to large fines.

Greenwich became the latest borough to end rates defiance at lunchtime on Saturday, after a sitting beginning the previous night.

The meeting displayed all the acrimony which has become standard for the councils which last July decided not to set rates. The leader, Mr John Austin-Walker, who voted against a rate to the last, and his deputy, Mr David Pickett, found themselves on opposite sides of the division. As with other councils which evaded an rate-capping the future leadership in Greenwich is now in doubt.

Now only Lambeth in London and the city of Liverpool — which is not rate-capped but is refusing to set a rate in protest at the Department of the Environment — are defying the Government.

Later this week the District Auditor will send letters to the members of Liverpool and Lambeth councils, warning them that he will shortly inform them of the extent of losses incurred by their refusal to set a rate.

Once he does this, it is understood that the legal process of surcharge will be under way, and the councillors will face fines, bankruptcy, and bans from public office.

Although the District Auditor could choose to initiate surcharge proceedings against the councils which like Greenwich, only set a rate very recently, Whitehall sources were suggesting last night that a much more conciliatory line is likely to emerge.

In May, councillors in London were warned that if no rates had been set by the beginning of June, surcharge proceedings would begin immediately. The effect of the current action by the District Auditor is to extend that deadline by at least a fortnight.

Last year, the sources recalled, Liverpool did not set a rate until July and there was no mention made of surcharge then.

Sunday Times cleared on terror suspect report

By Penny Chorlton

The Press Council has cleared the Sunday Times of acting improperly by naming and giving the whereabouts of Ms Evelyn Glenholmes, the Northern Irish woman wanted by police for questioning over the Brighton bombing and other terrorist activities.

Critics said that the story, published last November, alerted Ms Glenholmes, then living in the Irish Republic, allowing her to avoid arrest.

Mr W. Henderson of Fife, Scotland, complained to the council because he felt that the newspaper had acted against the interests of national security. He claimed that while it might have been difficult to track her down before, the front page article had made it impossible.

The Sunday Times justified its decision to publish the information, three weeks after it had been received, on the grounds that Ms Glenholmes had gone into hiding because word about her impending arrest had leaked out in Dublin.

Mr Andrew Neil, editor of the newspaper, told the council that in the 48 hours before

the story was published, reporters had contacted the Irish Embassy in London, the British Government and Scotland Yard. None of them had attempted to dissuade him from running the story.

Mr Henderson said he had been told by Mr Richard Wells, deputy assistant commissioner at Scotland Yard, that reporters had been asked to refrain from publishing the story.

This was denied by the Sunday Times, whose deputy editor, Mr Ivan Fallon, said that the newspaper, at any level, had asked the paper of factually or unofficially, not to run the story.

The council ruled that the newspaper took reasonable steps to ensure that the appropriate authorities were fully informed of the paper's intention to publish a story saying that a warrant had been issued for the arrest of Ms Glenholmes. Any of them could have requested withholding the story but none did so.

The paper had discharged its responsibilities and its subsequent publication of the story was "not improper."

Minister to lift veil on benefits

By David Hencke, Social Services Correspondent

The Labour and Liberal parties have persuaded the Government to release some details of benefit increases needed to protect single parents, pensioners and the unemployed from losses caused by proposals in the green paper on the welfare state.

Mr Tony Newton, the social security minister, has promised Mr Gordon Brown, Labour MP for Dunfermline East, to specify as soon as possible which of the benefits replacing supplementary benefit and family income supplement will rise in line with inflation.

He is also offering to give details of premium payments for pensioners, the unemployed and single parents, which will be needed to compensate them for abolishing heating allowances; clothing and dietary payments; and the requirement to pay 20 per cent of rate bills.

However, he is refusing to release details of internal figures prepared for the Cabinet which show the full effect of the changes. MPs may have to wait until 1987 before these are released. Leaders of the opposition parties plan to continue to press for publication.

The National Union of Students and the charity Youthaid say in a report today that more than 12 million unemployed under 25 could have their benefit cut when the welfare state review takes effect.

People under 25 would be treated as juveniles and poverty would increase. The report expects benefit rates to be cut for people aged 16 and 17.

At the GLC Mr Ken Livingstone claims that his officers have been able to comply with every request for information from the Department of the Environment without giving anything away, because in local government you need to know the answers before you ask the questions.

Each Monday a small group of councillors and officers meet to decide the information that should be sent across the river to the ministry. The results are guaranteed to rattle the brain," Mr Livingstone says.

This policy, non-cooperation earth, is helped because there has been no serious leakage of officers from the seven councils who could provide the key to much of the information required for the change.

Staff are behind another ruse that may occur at the time of the changeover and land the department with a nasty bill for damages. Any of the councils threatened with abolition could "forget" the need, under employment protection legislation, to give notice to the clerical employees who will probably lose

Vegetable quality improved at a stroke

By Andrew Moncur

GROWERS who might not wish to be found talking to a pot plant now have a more robust alternative: caressing a vegetable.

Research scientists have found that seedlings and young plants respond well to being stroked. It sets them up for later life when they go into the outside world, put down roots, become established in their own field and, sooner or later, start putting on weight. The treatment is firm but kindly.

There are also indications that a good shaking may be beneficial in the long term. The National Vegetable Research Station at Wellesbourne, Warwickshire, has come up with the idea, which makes it seem like the for abolishing heating allowances; clothing and dietary payments; and the requirement to pay 20 per cent of rate bills.

The approach is similar: take soft, gangling and green offspring from sheltered backgrounds; apply hearty roots, grow-up, put down roots, eat.

At Wellesbourne, the knockout regime is applied with a sheet of blotting paper, when the seedlings are about one inch tall.

Young vegetables are brushed back and forth across the head every day. The idea is to simulate the buffeting they might have experienced in the wild. It makes pricking out a less traumatic experience.

The Japanese, contemplating sugar beet, came to a similar conclusion. They have devised special brushes solely for stroking seedlings.

Law Society also fails to escape strictures

Judge condemns bias against 'ghetto office' black barristers

By Malcolm Dean

Racial discrimination by white barristers is preventing black colleagues from finding offices in chambers specialising in commerce, tax or planning work, according to Mr Justice Scott, a High Court judge.

Sir Richard Scott, who is chairman of the senate committee on race relations, was speaking at the first national conference on minority entry to the legal profession in London on Saturday. Judge Mota Singh, QC, the first black circuit judge, expressed concern at the development of "ghetto chambers" comprising only black barristers.

A conference background paper showed the number of black practising barristers was roughly equivalent to the proportion of black people in the country — just over 200 or 4.5 per cent of the profession — but only 49 of 328 sets of chambers contain a black barrister. Almost half are in 14 chambers.

Sir Richard said that until last October there was no black barrister in the specialist fields of commerce, tax, planning, patent, local government or parliamentary work. Black barristers were restricted to criminal law, family, work social security and immigration.

"I do not wish to decry those practising in criminal law or the other areas in which black barristers work but I do not want to see them typecast," he said. "It should be a matter of surprise to find

Judge Singh said the development of black "ghetto chambers" was detrimental to the profession. Able black barristers should be offered places in white chambers.

Unless procedures changed, the Bar would come to be seen to be a white profession, serving white clients rather than being impartial and available to all.

"A failure to remove even the appearance of discrimination from the legal profession reduces the confidence of every sector of the public in the fair administration of justice."

The Law Society, which regulates solicitors, was criticised even more severely at the conference.

The background paper noted that a Law Society working party in 1983 had been unable to find evidence of racial discrimination by black barristers who felt they had been discriminated against to appeal to his committee.

He said that the discrimination was unconscious prejudice. All heads of chambers regarded themselves as "respectable."

Complaints would require these chambers to justify and review their selection procedures.

Sir Richard said the senate had decided to carry out annual surveys on the ethnic composition of chambers. Since the first survey, which had ended last October, five black barristers had been recruited to specialised branches of the law.

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Moderates fall in vivisection group fight

By Penny Chorlton

Radical members of the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection have voted overwhelmingly to oust all seven moderate members of the group's committee.

The 600-strong vote at a specially-called meeting on Saturday ended a power struggle which has at times paralysed the anti-vivisection group during the last year.

The defeated Committee members included those who tried to sack three of the BUAV's full-time officers, Ms Margaret House, Mr Kim Stallwood, and Mr Paddy Broughton. They alleged that the officers had taken decisions without the authority of the ruling executive committee.

After the attempted sackings in March, the BUAV's telephone lines were cut off and the offices temporarily closed. The staff refused to accept the situation, had the telephone disconnected, and continued working.

The BUAV staff also brought the first successful prosecution against a prestigious medical establishment — the Royal College of Surgeons in January, the college was found guilty of cruelty to a monkey kept for animal experiments at its research laboratories in Kent.

Other important cases were pending, said Ms Manzoni yesterday, but the in-fighting had prevented the group from progressing at the best.

The seven who were voted out of office were Mr David Wilkinson, a former chairman; Mr Peter Grant, the treasurer; Mr Margaret House, who has to the past called for an investigation into the group's activities; Ms Beryl Spencer; Ms Joan Watson; Ms Lennox; and Ms Rebecca Hall.

They later said the meeting had been illegal. They had not convened a meeting, they said, seeking counsel's opinion.

The BUAV's annual general meeting takes place next month.

Ms Manzoni denied allegations from her opponents that she had endorsed violent actions or that the meeting had been called illegally. "I wrote to all 20,000 of our members and invited them to come along and vote," she said. "We have never advocated violence, we deplore suffering and anything which would hurt anybody."

Many of the BUAV's members were evidently surprised to learn that the group, which is registered as a company, has assets worth around £250,000.

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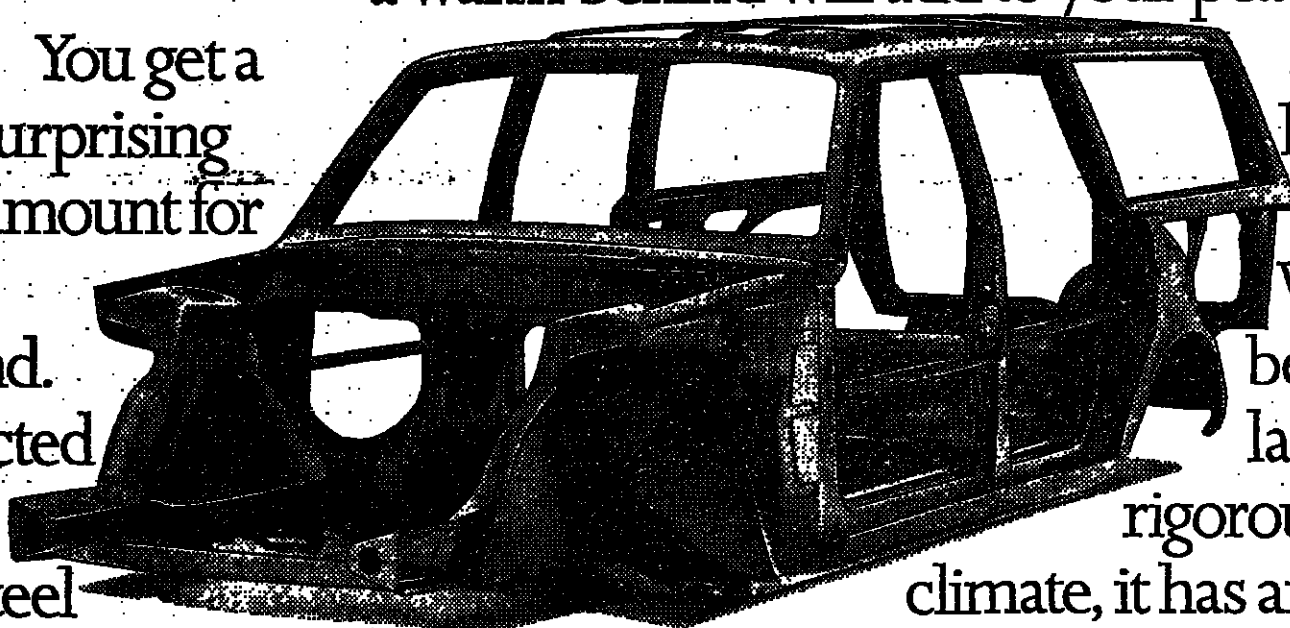
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Israelis to continue hunt for 'Angel of Death'

Brazil still unclear whether exhumed body is Mengele

From Jan Rocha in Sao Paulo

Brazilian police are convinced that the Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele lived in Brazil for almost 20 years in the 1950s and 1970s.

But whether the "Angel of Death" of Auschwitz concentration camp died here would only be established after police and forensic tests on a body exhumed from a nearby cemetery this week, Sao Paulo's police chief, Mr. Romeu Tuma, said at the weekend.

"There is no doubt that Mengele was in Brazil. The evidence is too strong," Mr. Tuma added.

The West German detectives sent to Brazil believe the body exhumed is that of Mengele.

The newspaper *Die Welt* said yesterday in an advance release of an article for today's edition, that the officers reported: "On the basis of current expertise, it must be assumed that the corpse buried on February 8, 1979, under the name of Wolfgang Gerhard is that of Josef Mengele."

It has been confirmed that the man whose name is on the death certificate as having died in February 1979 in reality lies buried on the other side of the world, in a graveyard at Graz in Austria. Wolfgang Gerhard, an Austrian who lived in Brazil between 1953 and 1978, died on December 18, 1978, after being found near his motor car with head wounds. Gerhard was a former Hitler Youth leader at Graz, who named his elder son Adolf.

In Brazil he is said to have distributed neo-Nazi literature and he emerges as the man who organised protection and safe houses for Mengele during the time he lived in Brazil. In 1976 he returned to Sao Paulo to give his identity papers to Mengele, who from then on be-

came, to all intents, Wolfgang Gerhard.

In 1977 Rolf Mengele reportedly visited Brazil to see his father, using a false passport. The son's picture has been recognised by witnesses here.

The Brazilian police have tracked down another couple whose name is on a list supplied by the West German police, found at the home of an old Mengele friend at Guaruja. They are Gerta and Gitta Stammer, of Hungarian origin, who emigrated to Brazil from Austria after the war.

In a statement to the police, Mrs Stammer said that Wolfgang Gerhard had introduced

ISRAELI will pursue the hunt for Mengele, the Justice Ministry said yesterday. Israel's senior police officer involved in the hunt said in a separate interview that he believed the exhumed body was an elaborate deception conceived by Mengele to relieve the pressure of the international search.—AP.

them to a man in 1961 who called himself Peter Hochbichler and who said he was Swiss. He managed the small farm they lived on in the hills to the north of Sao Paulo. He was very quiet, taken, and was suspicious of visitors.

In 1962 Mrs Stammer saw a newspaper article about wanted war criminals and she recognised a picture of Mengele as being the man who lived with them. When the Stammers asked Wolfgang Gerhard to take Mengele away, they received veiled threats about the safety of their children, so they let him stay.

Mengele admitted his real identity, and told Mrs Stammer he had fled to Italy after the

war, taken a French ship to Buenos Aires and lived there until 1959. Then, he said, he had lived near the Paraguayan capital, Asuncion, gone on to Uruguay and then to Brazil.

Mrs Stammer said Mengele suffered from migraine, rheumatism and had a swollen right leg. Once a man called Hans, who was said to work at the Mengele family agricultural machinery factory at Guaruja, brought vast quantities of US dollars to him. In the early 1970s an Austrian couple, the Brossetts, were introduced to him by Wolfgang Gerhard and in 1975 he went to live under their protection in a small cottage in the outskirts of Sao Paulo.

During the time Mengele lived with them, the Stammers occupied different smallholdings in the rolling green hills to the north of Sao Paulo. Many have warned from Europe live there because of the climate which is much cooler than in the city.

Not far away was another wanted Nazi, Gustav Wagner, the former underground commander of the Sobibor concentration camp in Poland. Wagner was arrested in 1978 after the Israeli secret service discovered a meeting of former Nazis and the archaeological wonders of the world — as an emergency landing site for the US space shuttle.

Wagner's extradition was refused by the Brazilian supreme court but after many unsuccessful suicide attempts he took his own life in 1980. The discovery of Wagner in 1978 must have alarmed Mengele and his protectors, the Brossetts, who have admitted they knew Wagner.

A Brazilian dentist who says he recognised Mengele's picture in a newspaper as that of a man, three months after his alleged death, is to make a statement to the police today.

Parisian skinheads make obscene gestures and Nazi salutes during the French soccer cup final on Saturday between Paris-St Germain and Monaco. The group of St Germain fans have called themselves KOP in honour of the Liverpool fans who rioted at the European Cup final.

NEWS IN BRIEF

EEC split on trade

EEC foreign ministers were unable to agree yesterday on ways of making the trading bloc more effective, but moved towards setting up a body to coordinate foreign policy, diplomats said.

The British proposal to set up a "political cooperation secretariat" independent of the European Commission was criticised by the Commission President, Mr Jacques Delors.

Mr Delors said after a two-day informal meeting of foreign ministers in Stress, Italy, preparing for a summit conference later this month, that such a body would sow seeds of conflict with the commission.

"It will compromise the good functioning of the Community without producing any advantages," he said.

Socialists try to keep control

THE Portuguese Socialist Party yesterday indicated that it would try to maintain control of the government with or without Mr Mario Soares as Prime Minister, writes Paul Eilman from Lisbon.

Mr Pedro Coelho, the party's spokesman, urged President Soares to respond to the crisis provoked by last Tuesday's walkout from the government by the Socialist's junior coalition partners, the Social Democrats, by allowing a new Cabinet to be formed.

Albania talks

THE Foreign Office confirmed last night that initial contacts between Britain and Albania, the first in 40 years, have taken place, although there is no commitment at this stage by either side to resume diplomatic relations, writes Patrick Keatley.

Miner trapped

RESCUE teams struggled yesterday to reach a goldminer missing after a rockfall in a mine. A special police unit reported that 355 churches, 283 private homes, and 35 museums were raided.—AP.

Blast charges

TWO white settlers were charged in Noumea yesterday with keeping an inquiry into a spate of bombings in the French South Pacific territory of New Caledonia last month in which four people were hurt, police said.—Reuter.

Twelve killed

TWELVE villagers were abducted and killed by unidentified gunmen in army uniforms after refusing to pay bribes equivalent to \$16 each, the independent daily newspaper *Nyobo* (Shield) reported in Kampala at the weekend. The 12 victims were loaded aboard a Ugandan army lorry along with others from Lukyama, a farming village, and taken to a nearby valley.—AP.

Cave test

TWO young speleologists at the weekend climbed out of a cave in Prato, Italy, where they had passed 34 days to study how they would react to a total lack of external stimulation. Sergio Venturi and Giuseppe Piro reached the top of the cave, 177 yards above the spot that had been their home for more than a month, the *Ans* news agency reported.—AP/Reuter.

Turkish protest

TURKEY has accused the European Community of interfering in its internal affairs after it voiced concern over plans to give Turkish police sweeping new powers, diplomatic sources said in Ankara yesterday. The police bill would give Turkish police unprecedented powers of search, arrest, and detention and in use of firearms and telephone tapping.—Reuter.

Guerrilla clashes

LEFTWING guerrillas and security forces clashed in western Guatemala near the Mexican border and two guerrillas and a civil defence patrolman were killed, an army spokesman reported at the weekend. It said that one of the guerrillas was a woman, and that six patrolmen were wounded.—AP.

Abortion vote

SWISS voters yesterday rejected a proposed constitutional amendment that would have limited abortions and banned some contraceptives, preliminary results showed. Under Swiss law, a constitutional amendment must be approved both by a majority of cantons and by a popular majority.—AP.

Art thefts

THIEVES stole 8,600 pieces of art and antiquities from Italian churches and collections in 1984, the Rome daily *La Repubblica* said at the weekend. A special police unit reported that 355 churches, 283 private homes, and 35 museums were raided.—AP.

Escape foiled

TWO people who apparently attempted to defect to Austria across the Czech border were stopped by uniformed border guards and one of the would-be refugees was hit by one or more bullets, Austrian officials reported in Linz at the weekend.—AP.

Centre-right in first steps to French unity

From Campbell Page in Paris

The three leaders of the centre-right opposition, which is expected to beat the ruling Socialist in next spring's National Assembly election, yesterday appeared together on the same public platform for the first time since 1981.

Mr Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, a former president who organised the two-day Liberal congress here, and two prime ministers who served under him, Mr Jacques Chirac, now Mayor of Paris, and Mr Raymond Barre, wanted to give an impression of a unified opposition and to take steps towards unity.

Mr Chirac of the neo-Gaullist RPR and Mr Giscard d'Estaing of the UDF believe that the opposition, if successful next year, should provide a government to serve under the Socialist presidency of Mr Mitterrand, whose term does not expire until 1988. Mr Barre, who has a following rather than a party, is opposed to this "cohabitation."

The three men are natural rivals for leadership. A popularity poll, published in the *Journal du Dimanche*, yesterday gave an individual rating for Mr Barre of 44 per cent, Mr Giscard 34 per cent, and Mr Chirac 31 per cent. The secretary of the Socialist party, Mr Lionel Jospin, yesterday compared their joint appearance at the Liberal congress to a spaghetti Western. As the three heroes prepared

to share the treasure, each was ready for a quick draw.

In his speech Mr Chirac said that a difference of opinion about cohabitation should not be transformed into a war of religion. All three should be ready to discuss everything among themselves but ought to avoid contradictory public statements.

Mr Giscard d'Estaing, who organised the congress to mark the twentieth anniversary of his political association, *Peuple et Patrie*, hoped that the unity achieved yesterday would be maintained and extended by further cooperation.

Mr Barre said that Liberal ideas had gained ground during four years of socialism and were the only ones which would allow France to take a new place in the world.

A correspondent adds: a leading French journalist, Eric Rouleau, has been nominated by President Mitterrand to be the new French ambassador in Tunis. He is the first journalist to receive a French ambassadorial appointment abroad.

The Tunisian post is particularly important because Tunis is the headquarters of both the Arab League and the PLO. Mr Rouleau, aged 59, was born in Cairo. He is fluent in Arabic and is widely known for his moderate views on Palestinian issues. From 1959 to 1980 he was head of the Near East and Middle East desk of *Le Monde*.

Call for inquiry rejected

TUNIS: The PLO failed yesterday in attempts to obtain Arab League support for an inquiry into alleged massacres of Palestinian civilians in Beirut and to have Syria's role in fighting there condemned.

A resolution passed at the end of a two-day emergency meeting of the 21-member league, which the PLO requested to discuss a three-week-old battle for control of the Lebanese refugee camps in the Lebanese capital, called for an immediate ceasefire and withdrawal of forces besieging the camps.

But it did not contain a PLO demand for a commission of inquiry into alleged killings by Syrian-backed Shi'ite *Amal* militia or a condemnation of Syria, also sought by the PLO.

The resolution, which was hammered out during a meeting marked by clashes between Syria and the PLO, also called for the release of prisoners and for the International Red Cross to be able to enter the camps to tend the wounded.

"Foreign Minister" Farouk Kaddoumi, the head of the PLO's political department, said that although the points were dropped from the original PLO draft, he regarded the meeting as a qualified success because other measures were adopted and the resolution called for the Syrian council to meet again on June 24 to review progress.

"Syria is becoming more and more isolated now in the Arab world," he said and added that 10 out of the 21 league members were in favour of an extraordinary Arab summit, as proposed by the PLO leader, Mr Yasser Arafat at the opening session in a speech which provoked a Syrian walkout.

The Syrian Foreign Minister, Mr Arafat, said it was out of order for Arafat — who in PLO terms is a head of state — to address the meeting.

In Beirut, Shi'ite Muslims fought sporadic battles with Palestinian guerrillas, besieged in the refugee camps yesterday and Christian and Muslim militiamen fired across the Green Line.

The spreading clashes, hundreds of new families ignored the fighting to spend the day on Beirut's beaches. Police said 18 people were killed and 38 wounded over the weekend in the Beirut hostilities.

Among the dead were 16 killed and 33 wounded in machinegun and rocket-propelled grenade clashes between the Palestinians and Shi'ite Muslim forces.

The known casualty toll in the camps was now stands at 544 killed and 2,158 wounded since fighting erupted on May 12.—Reuter/AP.

Iraqi raids hit Tehran

BAGHDAD: Iraq said yesterday that its warplanes dealt Tehran, six Iranian border towns and a military camp "destructive blows" as the war of the cities entered its third week between the two Gulf belligerents.

Iran claimed, meanwhile, that at least 78 people were killed and more than 120 injured in an Iraqi air raid yesterday on a north-west Iran. More than 90 per cent of the casualties were women and children.

A military spokesman here said in a radio statement that in addition to Tehran, the towns of Farnah, Haman, Rezaiyeh, Abadan and Qazvin, together with an army base, were "raided by 20 jet fighters."

The raids were aimed at "shattering the base of aggression in Iran," he said.

Military action along the 733-mile war-front has meanwhile been reduced to minor skirmishing as the two sides step up raids on each other's civilian targets.—AP.

£395,000 damages awarded to victim of Ku Klux Klan

From Alex Brummer in Washington

After three full scale jury trials and a six-year legal battle, survivors and relatives of leftwing activists who took part in the bloody 1979 Death to the Klan rally in Greensboro, North Carolina have finally won some redress.

A jury in Winston-Salem awarded damages of \$395,000 to the family of a young doctor who was shot at the rally and two others who were wounded. The \$48 million civil lawsuit was launched in March after two all-white juries had dismissed murder and civil rights charges against members of the Ku Klux Klan and law enforcement officials.

The cases stemmed from a gun battle on November 3, 1979, as members of the left-wing Communist Workers Party and their sympathisers staged a demonstration against a Klan march through the southern city of Greensboro. With television cameras running the Klanmen, and police who were protecting them while they marched, launched a barrage of beatings and bullets against the unarmed demonstrators: when it was all over five people lay dead and 11 wounded.

Two held after blast

Lima: Police launched a six other cities into darkness search yesterday, following a bombing which killed eight power and holding two as suspects. After Maoist rebels blacked out Peru's capital and set off two car bombs near the presidential palace.

The rebel attack, one of the largest so far, plunged at least

Nasa lays an Easter Island egg

From Malcolm Coast in Santiago

A ROW has broken out here about a request by Nasa to use the aerodrome on Easter Island — 2,350 miles out in the Pacific Ocean and one of the archaeological wonders of the world — as an emergency landing site for the US space shuttle.

Critics fear the plan will damage the island's culture and ecology, dragging it into President Reagan's controversial Star Wars programme.

"The island is Chilean, and President Pinochet must approve the \$18 million plan to extend the existing Mataverí airstrip near the island's main village of Hanga Roa and install sophisticated navigation equipment. The strip would be used in the event of a hitch during take-off from the shuttle's launch site in Vandenberg, California, although the chances of this are remote.

The US embassy says that, against the plan's possible military implications are the island's archaeological wonders. But critics point to recent classified missions by the shuttle and say that if a new orbit, which is polar rather than equatorial, will enable it to photograph the whole of the earth's surface, including the Soviet Union and other sensitive spots.

They also fear that the new navigation equipment may be used for missile and submarine guidance.

Such implications, the former Christian Democrat presidential candidate, Mr Radomiro Tomie, says would draw Chile into unprepared military cooperation with the US and "put the country in the front line of a nuclear conflict."

Ecological and cultural fears centre on the tiny, 70-square-mile island, more than 600 miles from the mainland, long-cared statues which stare out to sea from sites all over the island. Their mysterious origins have earned the island the name of "the most fascinating natural museum in the world."

The 2,000 inhabitants of Rapa Nui, as the island is known in their native tongue, maintain a unique Polynesian culture unconnected with the Chilean mainland.

Embassy sources say that any ecological damage was done when the present airstrip was built, and that the new equipment will merely make Mataverí "one of the best equipped civilian airports in the world." US personnel would only come to the island in an emergency, while the installations would be left in the hands of the Chilean Air Force. Authority, allowing a big increase in tourist flights and economic development.

President Pinochet is expected to rule on the plan soon. His critics include not only opposition figures, but one of his former ministers, who was also ambassador to the Organisation of American States. Ms Monica Madariaga.

IRAQIS APPEAL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

The Iraqi masses abhor and condemn the indiscriminate and irresponsible bombing, by the Ba'athist regime in Iraq, of civilian targets and defenceless populations of Iranian towns, which compels the Iranian side to resort to mutual retaliation. It is needless to reiterate that such actions cause considerable loss of human and material resources in both neighbouring countries.

We appeal to the international community, individuals and organisations, to use their leverage on the regime in Baghdad to stop these atrocities which constitute a flagrant violation of human rights.

The only way is to let the Iraqi regime know that the world still has conscience, and that the civilised nations will not condone their crimes against humanity.

THE GENERAL MOBILISATION FOR THE SALVATION OF IRAQ
B.M. Box 9108
London WC1N 3XX

Hugh Hebert reviews the weekend's television

Flynn affair

IT IS not much of an epitaph, but David Niven once said: "You can always rely on Errol Flynn; he will always let you down." Perhaps it was just the British Army officer scoring off the sea tramp from Tasmania. But if Niven did not have the evidence of a few women, did it we believe the legend—and it is legend that goes into the Hollywood biopic. So better not to worry about the accuracy of *Wicked, Wicked Ways* (ITV), a television version of Flynn's autobiography.

Still, within the absurdities of the genre, this film scored above average for simple entertainment and well above the one we had not long ago about Clark Gable. Duncan Regehr, last seen as the gladiator in *The Last Days of Pompeii*, poor chap, often sounded more like Niven or Colman because naturally to an American all money actors sound alike. But he had some of the quality if not the quantity of dash required, and perhaps the sets looked as authentic as anything as false as Hollywood ever can. Flynn stuck strictly to the legend—boosting as against the legend-busting business. Nothing here of the tales suggesting Flynn was a spy or a bisexual.

We were given the first seven years of his roistering career up to the point where he was acquitted of a charge of statutory rape, an occupational hazard now better known as Polanski's syndrome. It was all wholly insulating to women but then for most women in Hollywood at the time there was probably not much scope between being a star and being insulted.

Except perhaps for Orson Welles, it is difficult to think whom you might cast as Francis Bacon, who turned up in yesterday's *South Bank Show* (LWT) so late in his career that most of us already felt sad with the subject. Which is a pity because it was by far the most stylish, informative and plain funny account of the man and his work that I have seen. It lacked an incisive art-critic's view of the paintings. But then the BBC Arena programme about Bacon some time ago, which had a fully paid-up art critic, did not have it either.

Last night's film, by David Hinton and Melvyn Bragg, did have some splendidly rambling, almost querulous, but about Bacon as a social being. It had a visual style that explored the artist's belief in his own realism without directly endorsing it. Bacon's evasions on the violence and harshness of his vision—the screaming mouth seen as a beautiful formal pattern of colour—are familiar. But perhaps they ring more honestly than any claim to reveal the condition of man. The condition of Bacon we saw was as cheery as going to follow over lunch or surrounded by cronies in his favourite gay drinking club. "I'm not one of those made-up poofs," Bacon told one who offered him powder for his nose. "I'm just a very old-fashioned fellow, you know." When the club opened in the late 40s, its proprietress offered Bacon £10 a week and free drinks to bring in as many friends as he could. It looked like most of them had been there ever since.

If you exclude the prizefighters on BBC1, the only other group of amiable eccentricities about were the *Man of Man of Jacksonville* (BBC2). It was an American breaking the record by spotting 152 different species of British birds within 24 hours. He also told stories of his shooting pheasants from his tank during pauses in the *Battle of the Bulge*. You stay tuned to this damned box for a long weekend and you learn a million things you never wanted to know. Still, I did want to know how the first woman ever to break into the lead-balloon world of *The Comedians* (Granada) would fare. The answer is that in the half an hour she was allowed 47 seconds for three quick jokes. Margaret Thatcher was allowed 90 minutes of David Frost (TV-am) and no jokes at all. What she really told in the way she knows well, by ranting, was that she is still very sensitive about the Belgrano. Frost confessed himself "as surprised as you were" to find himself in an argument when all he had asked was whether in retrospect the way she had handled the Belgrano disclosures—not making itself—might have been a mistake. "I thought you'd agree with me," he said, a bit bemused. Some hope.

MOST British listeners, if they know the music of Philip Glass at all, know it through some of its lesser manifestations. Worse, insofar as lingering snobbish prejudices exist between the worlds of classical music and rock, they think of Glass as the poppy lesser partner in that celestial duo, Reich and Glass, the greater member of the constellation being Steve Reich.

Of the two leading American "minimalists," it has been Reich who has won the more respectful attention from British classical-music commentators. Glass, with his "band" and his deafening volume and his pounding to the rock crowd, has been left largely to the rock press, and good riddance, too.

This easy misconception is likely to be broken with next week's British premiere of Glass's second or third or fourth, depending on how you count, opera, *Akhmatov*, the English National Opera at the Coliseum. Yet the presumption that Glass is simplistic and commercial is likely to blunt the reception of this score, too.

In addition, many Britishers, by contrast, the opera with its production, which has been partly revised from its American original but which is still likely to make a less striking case for the work than Colin Freyer's brilliant tour de force of the March 1984 world premiere in Stuttgart.

British misconceptions about the nature of Glass's work are partly his own fault. To be sure, he would have been happy to let his country encounter his major works of the past decade—*Einstein on the Beach* and *Satyagraha*—above all. But there hasn't been enough interest up to now and the opportunity for British tours with his smaller, more manageable ensemble were hard to resist.

Furthermore, a deliberate booming of the appeal of the classical music so hermetic in this century, has been a genuine part of Glass's aesthetic. But a disproportionate exposure to his recent, truly rather poppy ensemble works has meant that British listeners have been cheated not only of his recent major stage pieces, but of his more powerful early ensemble scores, as well.

Glass was born in Baltimore in 1937 and for the first thirty years of his life seemed to be evolving into a typical young American modernist composer. He studied at the Peabody Conservatory and with Nadia Boulanger (the doyenne of so many young American composers, from Aaron Copeland and Virgil Thomson through Elliott Carter). He dabbled in serialism, won a few fellowships and had some thirty conventional contemporary scores for orchestra and ensemble actually published (he's since suppressed them). His course changed forever

while he was in Paris in the mid-1960s, during his rebellious tenure with Boulanger. Asked to transcribe some sitar improvisations by Ravi Shankar for use in a film, he misunderstood the structure of Indian music, and that misunderstanding became the basis of a new style. From then on, his music was a sharply reductive pattern of small basic units of two and three notes strung together, the pitch-choices diatonic but subordinated to the rhythmic flow.

The effect was mystical and hypnotic—in short, genuinely minimalist. It drove conventional sensibilities to distraction, but enthralled a young audience weaned on rock and the visual arts (many early Glass and Reich concerts were given in New York museums and galleries) and primed for meditative experience. The influence of Eastern religions—Glass himself is a Tibetan Buddhist—and drugs is undeniable here, although that hardly means you have to be a stoned guru to compose or appreciate such music.

Upon his return to New York, after studies with the table player Alla Rakha and the first of many trips to India, he fell in with Reich. The two men influenced each other and played each other's music, though they have since become somewhat bitter rivals. Gradually, Glass formed his ensemble, which since

English National Opera will next week premiere a work by a composer whose work excites and divides opinion in the world of rock and classical music. John Rockwell reports on the controversy behind a touch of Glass.

the early 70s has consisted of two or three electronic keyboard instruments, three or four amplified winds and a wordless amplified soprano. His music for this group gradually evolved in length, harmonic variety and structural complexity, although its basic—kinetically engrossing, harmonically static, dynamically loud and unvarying patterns of shifting lines and chords—remained. The masterpieces of this period, *Music With Changing Parts*, *Music in Twelve Parts*, and *Another Look At Harmony*, are still mostly unrecorded and unrepresented in his current ensemble repertoire. But there are those in New York who insist they are the best music Philip Glass ever wrote.

Einstein On The Beach, the four-hour "opera" Glass created with the American playwright, director and designer Robert Wilson, toured Europe in 1976, played two now-legendary sold-out dates at the Metropolitan Opera House that autumn, was recorded and finally revived in Brooklyn last December.

The confusion about how many operas Glass has actually composed derives partly from the controversy about whether Einstein counts in the canon. Wilson calls all his big pieces operas, yet Einstein was scored for Glass's ensemble and amplified, untrained voices that sang only numbers and sol-fège syllables.

For those of us who love the work, its effect is incantatory and totally involving; for those who don't, it's silly, boring and pretentious. But as Glass points out, whatever you call it or think about it, it can only be performed in an opera house, and its success in 1976 quickened his interest in opera and opera's interest in him. The result has been a run of commissions for "real" operas, meaning evening-long stage works scored for unamplified opera singers, chorus and orchestra and designed for the working repertories of actual opera companies.

The first of these operas was "Satyagraha," a series of contemplative tableaux on

the evolution of the young Gandhi's philosophy of non-violent resistance while he was a lawyer in Africa. Sung in Sanskrit to metaphorically appropriate texts from the Bhagavad-Gita, the work was first performed in 1980 by the Royal Netherlands Opera, which commissioned it, and subsequently, in the same production, in America, with a Freyer staging seen in Stuttgart and Wuppertal. The New York City Opera has also recorded it for CBS.

Akhmatov, about the monotheistic Egyptian pharaoh, was commissioned by Stuttgart with David Freeman's second production seen last year at the Houston Grand Opera and the New York City Opera, and now in London. Since then, Glass has written a two-hour-plus operatic score for the fifth and final act of Wilson's massive Civil Wars project. The fifth act was given its first performance in March 1984 by the Rome Opera, but its fragmentary libretto and status as part of a still-large uncompleted work makes it another questionable entry

into the true Glass operatic canon.

The third opera in that canon strictly defined has now been commissioned by the Dutch, and is scheduled for its first performance this coming March in Amsterdam. This will be based on Doris Lessing's recent "space fiction" novel, *The Making Of The Representative For Planet 8*. Andrei Serban will direct and David Hockney will design. And there are still more opera projects lined up behind that.

Why this success, and how do Glass's operas relate to his recent work for his ensemble? The underlying idiom is similar, but softer and subtler (say those who admire it) or weaker and more conventional (say the ensemble loyalists). Satyagraha really was an orchestration of the ensemble idiom at its quietest and most meditative: stately and gently. Brucknerian Akhmatov, scored for a counter-tenor hero and an orchestra without violins and full of poignant details of instrumentation, represents a determined diversification of coloristic effect.

Dramaturgically, too, these operas make their own kind of sense. Glass is no newcomer to the stage. Long before Einstein he was deeply involved in theatrical avant-gardism as music director of a vanguard theatre troupe called Mabou Mines, of

which his then-wife, the actress and director JoAnne Akalaitis, remains a member. Both Satyagraha and Akhmatov, with their use of incomprehensible languages (Akhmatov is in ancient Egyptian, Hebrew and Akkadian, though there is a narrator and one aria in the language of the audience) and their static meditations on the lives of iconic central figures, are examples of American "non-narrative" theatre.

Over the past nine years, Glass has continued to write smaller pieces for his ensemble, and this is the repertoire that has made up the bulk of the ensemble programs he takes on tour. Some of these scores—his soundtrack to Gottfried Reggio's hippie visual extravaganza, *Koyaanisqatsi*, or one suspects, his music for the Paul Schrader's Mishima film—represent real compositional advances for him.

But too many of them sound like formulae recycling of devices he came up with in the early 70s. They constitute a determined attempt to make money, win fame and broaden his audiences; Glass is an open admirer of some rock as a communicative device but also as music, per se. He has played in rock clubs and co-produced two albums by a not-very-interesting American art-rock band called Polyrock.

All of this, from the constant outer simplicity of all his music to the ensuring of the unwashed rock masses, horrifies pricier modernist sensibilities. And yet Glass is doing what classical composers used to do before serious music got all knotty and self-important: he is reaching for a healthy alterity. He doesn't deliberately court his audiences, or reveal in fashionability, or reuse old ideas? For some of us, Glass represents a healthy alterity to the gnomic self-involvement of too many otherwise important present-day composers.

But Glass is no mere sociological model for composers; he makes important music that has simultaneously attracted serious attention and won wide popularity. His best works reaffirm that there is no automatic equation to be made between complexity and excellence; artfully deployed simplicity, as in so much 20th-century painting or ancient Japanese art, can speak to us profoundly.

Even those who despise his work and his success are forced to admit that he has made an impact large enough to generate strong feelings, positive and negative. After generations in which modern music was either ignored or applauded in an atmosphere of dispassionate politeness, the music of Philip Glass has brought a fresh and welcome recommitment to human feeling, overt beauty and romantic rapture.

John Rockwell is music critic of the New York Times.

PHILIP GLASS: too modern for the modernists. Picture by Martin Argles

The Glass war on tradition

ALMEIDA FESTIVAL

Meirion Bowen

Mikhashoff

THE ALMEIDA Festival was launched last weekend with a seven-hour panorama of 70 years of American keyboard music, superbly planned and executed by Ivar Mikhashoff. Everything was here from the sublime to the purely dotty. In the latter category, for instance, was a memorable performance of Edward Harris's *Chop* in the Citrus Belt (1938) a piece of pastiche in which the right-hand part was played with an orange.

At the start, there was the Alcotts Movement from Charles Ives's *Concord Sonata*, which seemed to imply that the Americans, by later American composers. Its obsessive use of the opening motif of Beethoven's fifth symphony, betokened a deep exploration of music's philosophic content and purpose which is still there even among the most daring of today's avant garde. On the other hand, its freely unfolding forms and textures away from the dominant traditions of German music.

For some figures contemporary with Ives, Debussy and Oriental music were the spur to explore new structures and expression. This became critically evident in the recital in works such as Charles Griffes's two impressionistic preludes (1915), *Le Jardin* and *Afternoon in Chinatown*, and Dane Rudhyar's *Stars and Sumburst* (1926). Even John Cage's suite for toy piano had an eastern flavour, suggestive of his later investigation of Oriental art and thinking.

Even the young Aaron Copeland, before he went to study in France with Nadia Boulanger, was already tuned in to the French ethos. His sonnets and moods—tiny pieces of juvenilia being heard for the first time here—made this strikingly clear.

Others found new inspiration in vernacular music closer to home, such as jazz and blues. Even in a frivolity like John Confrey's *Nickel in the Slot* (an example of so-called novelty music of the 1920s), the jazz-derived independence of the hands and fingers produced a fascinating filigree piano texture.

Like many members of the audience I didn't listen to all the music, but my appreciation of Mikhashoff's stamina and concentration was not in any way affected. I returned once in time for *La Monte Young's Piano Piece* of David Tudor No. 1, in which Mikhashoff was engaged in feeding the piano with hay and a bucket of water. I also stayed for the concluding half-hour minimalist romp, in which Mikhashoff and fellow pianist Michael McCandless joined forces with Music Projects/London conducted by Richard Barnes, in a performance of John Adams's *Grand Piano* (1982): shredded Sibelius and Wagner regaled into a colourful musical mobile. A fitting end to a long celebration.

For which I hardly blame her.

Beethoven's last sonata in D major was played in an appropriately straightforward and introspective manner (nothing of the public Beethoven here) but the outer movements were out of proportion. Jeremy Brown playing far too vigorously, though he had never thought how an early 19th century piano might have sounded in this work.

Shostakovich's sonata went reviving, not a virtuoso of one mind and finding the bold and expressive style the music demands. The cellist's tone is not huge but there is plenty of variety in her playing, and the slow movement and the necessary concentration and intensity even at lowest dynamic levels.

Ysaye's unaccompanied sonata was a rarity well worth reviving, not a virtuoso piece, but gently romantic and concise in structure with a few backward glances to Bach. This was excellently played in an appropriately undemonstrative and lyrical way.

Paganini's most famous Rossini Variations and Bartok's Rumanian Folk Dances showed the cellist in command of the necessary technique but sometimes lacking the party spirit needed for these showpieces. If she were to come out further to entertain the audience (literally, from behind the sheltering music stand) and were to tell us more about herself, she would have won a notable victory.

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very much a joint team as violinist and accompanist, gave the third violin sonata at the Wigmore Hall.

There is a great strength in Sophia Langdon's playing: stylish, powerfully motivated and with a forthrightness that gave full measure to the robust side of the music, even if it proved sometimes unyielding to the emotional pull that has to be reckoned with as well.

This more poetic aspect, though, was brilliantly taken care of by Paul Roberts. I had never heard him before, which is my loss because he is clearly a pianist who combines exceptional refinement with a keen imagination. His was a truly creative performance which explored and exploited every facet of Ives's kaleidoscopic style, teasing out the nostalgia and dealing the hammer blows with equal mastery.

BATH FESTIVAL

Meirion Bowen

Clark Co.

THIS new show by Michael Clark's company—first seen in Brussels last year—began with bare-bottomed cabaret which caused the Bath Festival audience to turn not a hair. Hence, perhaps, one significance of its eccentricity: Not that in fact, surrealism rather than dadaistic provocation was its keynote.

Thus the oddly post-punk costumes (by Leigh Bowery) and make-up caused constant confusion of genders amongst the dancers (two male, two female actually); but this all lent credibility to the free mingling of dance and mime from different cultures and traditions. The recorded music provided by The Fall had collage techniques that were also apt, though not as inventive or as formally secure as the choreography.

In the first half, you could savour the skills of the dancers. Elliptical solo and ensembles they passed fluently from classical ballet routines to the detailed hand and eye movements of Oriental dance, and through some subtle sendups of folk and rock dance. Part two was more continuous, with complex development of movement and gesture, reaching a threatening militaristic climax in which the audience was invited to participate.

Eroticism played a large role throughout but this, merely added spice to an entertaining and brilliantly virtuosic dance spectacle.

Edward Greenfield on the opening of the Aldeburgh Festival

Master of Maltings

AMONG the greatest assets of the latter-day Aldeburgh Festival is the presence of Murray Perahia not just as performer but as an active director. Though no single musician will ever be able to replace Benjamin Britten as a central fountainhead, composer, interpreter and inspirer, it would be hard to think of another performer, certainly not of the younger generation, who so consistently sparks off the sort of creative interpretation which Britten himself always provided.

So far Perahia has contributed to only one festival concert, and that in a subsidiary role as pianist with the Vermeer Quartet in the Dvorak piano quintet at the Maltings on Saturday. But in that appearance, seemingly shy and reticent until the actual moment of keys being touched, he had a dominance and intensity to explain why music-making at Aldeburgh adds up to so much more than the sum of its ingredients.

With Perahia the piano becomes an instrument as sonorous as the cello, with each phrase given new and individual magic. Here in the Dvorak quintet he prompted his string partners into matching and contrasting flights of lyricism, culminating in a thrilling finale. Thanks to Perahia too the Mendelssohnian qualities of the work, the lightness of its scherzando passages, were consistently brought out, never any Brahmsian thickness.

Over the next fortnight Perahia will be master of ceremonies at a series of chamber concerts at the Maltings, mostly with the members of the Vermeer Quartet, among the sweetest and most perfectly matched groups in the world today.

Three of the movements making up Mendelssohn's Opus 61, shaped into a coherent group, were predictably well suited to their style, but even more revealing was their warm performance of Berlioz's formidable *Lyric Suite*. For once it obeyed not only the adjective of the title but with sharp contrasts of mood those of the six individual movements as well—giove, amoroso, misterioso, and so on.

Celebrating a tercentenary likely to be overlooked in this year of tercentenaries, Peter Aspin directed the Aldeburgh Festival Singers in a beautifully designed

programme at Framlingham church. Planted between examples of the greatest of all English church music by Byrd and Purcell were some of the amazing visionary madrigals and anthems by the Carolingian George Jeffreys, who died in 1685, composer in his spare time but a master of invention well ahead of his period.

The major tercentenary offering this year at Aldeburgh is the latest opera production by the Britten-Pears School for Advanced Music Studies, Rodelinda, third of the three masterpieces which Handel wrote for the season 1724-5.

In no sense except the youth of the musicians involved was this a student effort for Steuart Bedford as conductor and Basil Coleman as producer have demanded and achieved standards you would be lucky to get from hardened professionals.

Production on the broad open stage of the Maltings was simple but generally

effective with costumes from Covent Garden and stylised flats and props designed by three students from the Wimbledon College of Art. What was questionable was the producer's determination to rely on the words of Jocelyn Powell's variably successful English translation for the point of the drama to be brought home.

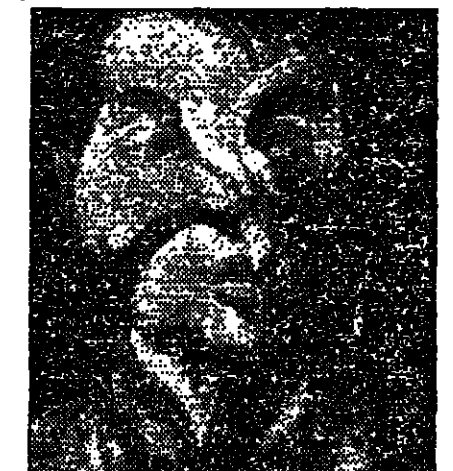
As it was, the singers—headed superbly by the young soprano, Louise Camens as Rodelinda herself—did wonders in the recitatives in getting words over, but too often their lines echoed the flatfooted banalities of Victorian melodrama.

Nonetheless, credit must go not only to Louise Camens but to Christopher Royall and Nicholas Clapton, counter-tenors taking the two brilliant castrato roles, the tenor Mark Tucker as a light, inclusive Grimaldo, Rosalind Eaton as Edgardo and Thomas Goetz as Garibaldo.

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TO DAY

BY ROBERT HOLMAN

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The champion from the other nation

After ten days of sporting sackcloth and ashes, Britain cheered again without shame on Saturday night (and well into Sunday), when Barry McGuigan conclusively captured the World Boxing Association featherweight crown from Panama's Eusebio Pedroza. Yet McGuigan's compelling victory was full of cultural ironies. The Brussels slaughter was a very distinctive English humiliation — as the Scots, Welsh and Irish were self-protectively quick to point out. The crushed Italian bodies in the Heysel stadium fell in front of fans who wave the Union Jack with a fervour matched only by Ulster loyalists and Falkland islanders. Yet in London on Saturday, English fans cheered as their sporting guilt was expiated by an Irishman whose Hibernian supporters waved flags and sang anthems which are effectively banned in large parts of Northern Ireland and in parts of cities like Glasgow as well. To add further symbolic spice, the fight was refereed by a South African. And the admirable Mr McGuigan himself embodies all the contradictions of the evening. A British citizen, manager in Belfast, he was born and lives in the Republic. He is a Roman Catholic who is married to a Protestant. He is a hero to whose dressing-room Dr Garret Fitzgerald and Mr Douglas Hurd scrambled to be first with their telephoned acclaim. A sporting nation once again. But which nation?

There is a sobering side to Mr McGuigan's victory. Boxing and popular music have long provided two classic routes from the world's ghettos to commercial success. Ireland continues to provide many examples of both. In this country, the black inner cities are beginning to generate their own candidates as urban black America has long done too. Amid the lower weight divisions of world boxing, champions have for several years come from the impoverished, low-waged societies of the third world. In the weights below Mr McGuigan, the current champions come from Thailand, Puerto Rico and from Hispanic California. Mr McGuigan's leading featherweight contenders are from Panama, Ghana, Puerto Rico, Mexico and Korea. Quite what this company says about Ireland, or Britain, or about whichever nation claims Mr McGuigan as its own true son is uncertain. But it is a striking fact that these islands continue to be the only part of Europe which consistently produce the hungry men who make the best fighters.

Let us praise Mr McGuigan, then. But his victory on Saturday cannot do much to assuage the growing chorus of criticism of professional boxing. Indeed, Mr McGuigan himself drew attention to it in his post-fight words about the Nigerian boxer, Young Ali, who died following a six month coma sustained at the Irishman's fists in 1982. The sport is blighted by the tragic evidence of its effects on even the greatest of recent boxers, Muhammad Ali. Nobody wants to see Mr McGuigan suffer a similar decline as he attempts to maximise the big pay days a champion can command. Yet as long as boxing is as dubiously organised, as defensively unself-critical and as plain dangerous as the professional code now remains, then the risks remain. This does not mean that all boxing of whatever kind should be outlawed. The amateur code offers a broadly acceptable framework. But the difference between professional and amateur boxing remains the difference between sword fighting and the stylised art of fencing. It is not the least of Saturday's ironies that the violence of Brussels could be expiated within the legitimised cruelty of the professional boxing ring.

Mrs Thatcher and the West Bank

Whether or not the Prime Minister decides to visit Egypt and Jordan she has been made aware, by the visits last week of King Hussein and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, of the importance of some further European involvement on the side of the Arab peace-seekers. One temptation to diplomats and statesmen is to say that eleven hours have come and gone with unfailing regularity and nothing much (except Lebanon) has changed for the worse. Israel appears not to have the least intention of serious talks about the West Bank. Fortunately King Hussein appears to have persuaded Whitehall, if not Washington, that the tensions are again becoming insufferable.

The rule of "finders keepers" is beginning to operate in the Middle East so that it becomes more and more difficult to visualise Israel without the West Bank it found and kept in 1967. Nearly all the maps on sale in Israel, and certainly those which foreign tourists buy, show no boundary or other distinction between the two places. Faced with an eternity of occupation the morale of Palestinians living on the West Bank sinks slowly towards zero. To some extent, perhaps, morale will have been boosted by one of the very acts designed to crush it: The Shifite attack, initially backed by Syria, on the refugee camps of West Beirut. That has brought disparate factions of the PLO together. But it is a mere incident in the long history of Israeli occupation. One rush of adrenalin soon wears off.

Mrs Thatcher and the Foreign Office are said to be concerned lest King Hussein, in his anxiety to push Palestinians into the only peace option open to them, should isolate himself in the way that Anwar Sadat did. That is certainly a possibility. American support for Hussein and Mubarak can be shown to offer little in practical terms. Can Britain, preferably with some if not all of its European partners (for France is liable to break ranks at any time), offer the Palestinians a more solid commitment than the generalised and amorphous American desire to see peace in the region?

There are obvious dangers of leaden-footedness in any European intrusion into an area notorious for the volatility of its alliances. Nevertheless Europe starts from a better vantage point than the United States and is less encumbered with ideological baggage. Hitherto Britain has supported the American determination not to allow the Russians into the act. Without anticipating what the result might be, ought that policy to be re-examined? It is not immediately obvious where Soviet policy differs from what Europe would wish to see. Part of King Hussein's design is to involve the Russians at some stage, and nothing can ultimately be made to stick without them. Secondly, ought the Europeans to be more forthcoming towards the mainstream PLO itself? The Venice Declaration specifically mentioned the organisation so that it seems inconsistent to treat with at one remove. These or other extrapolations of current European policy could serve as a reminder that whatever Israeli maps may say the occupation is a fact which will have to be expunged.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When violence becomes a political football

Sir, — What a pity that, amidst the many attempts to understand the sad events in the Heysel stadium, Edwina Currie's brand of expedient individualism should ooze to the surface. (Letters, June 6).

The entrepreneurialism so characteristic of her political and economic philosophy spills over into her moral condemnation of both Jeremy Seabrook and football hooliganism. She invests blameworthiness in whatever is likely to produce the greatest rewards of self-righteousness. Her grudging acceptance of the desperation engendered by unemployment does not prevent the quite arbitrary imposition of limits to the social origins of behaviour.

"Despair" and "anger" might be related to social circumstances but she conveniently observes "brutishness" and "violence" to flow from the intentions of individuals.

The argument shifts back and forth between ideas of personal responsibility and

institutional failure, always obscuring the activities of government. Individuals are culpable one week but, inevitably, it will be families, schools and unruly mobs the next. Edwina Currie and the Government she is anxious to defend are like the teachers who accept responsibility for their pupils' success but blame their lack of intelligence on feeble parents and social class if they fail.

Unemployment is treated as an unfortunate disease arising from a combination of pathological like high wage demands or an educational system insufficiently responsive to the needs of capital, but never is it diagnosed as iatrogenic; the result of Government policy. On the other hand, hooliganism and thuggery are classified, using that most pernicious of metaphors, as cancers and beyond the limits of conventional political medicine.

What sort of specious argument will Edwina Currie advance when she decides to take the wife to Sainsbury's and finds an irrational out-

break of hooliganism amongst the dairy produce — eggs being lobbed in her direction? — Yours, David Woodman, 43 Sydenham Park, London SE26.

Sir, — Predictably, Edwina Currie either can't or won't see the kernel of Jeremy Seabrook's Agenda page argument (June 3).

Law and order is but a part of civilisation. Civilisation is not a part of law and order. It follows that law and order is a product of civilisation not vice versa. It is civilisation itself that is crumbling, and plastering its surface with a thick new layer of law and order can achieve only a short-lived and cosmetic effect.

Assuming our civilisation can be restored to good health (and one sometimes wonders), it is moral leadership and not heavy laws backed by police batons that will achieve it. Unfortunately, moral leadership is something our present government is particularly ill-

equipped to provide. Democracy is a tattered underfoot as callously as anything that happened in Brussels. The deprived are pillaged. The unemployed and the sick are victimised for their own misfortunes. Priests are told to mind their own business. Lies and underhandness are condoned at the highest levels.

Thatcherism is not itself responsible for what took place in that Brussels stadium. It is an actual part of it. — Yours faithfully, Bernard Mendon, 15 Cavalier Drive, Chester.

Sir, — Given Edwina Currie's track record, I am both to give unqualified endorsement to her views, but I must, even in the face of her clump-booted letter.

Underneath the hamfisted and panderous style that is enough to jostle a reader more than the average rough-hour tube could, she is dead right. The more so because of the arguably illiberal suggestion in Ian Flintoff's let-

ter appearing next to Mrs Currie.

To equate the mindless, immoral thuggery at Brussels with the disciplined, and moral, expedition to rid the Falklands of Argentine aggressors and occupiers is deplorable. The comparison is also so puerile it is scarcely worth considered examination.

But while we're at it: Mrs Thatcher used the word "Rejoice" only once. It happened not after the Belgrano or any similar incident, but after the South Georgia recapture when not a single life had been lost. On being goaded by a reporter she said: "Rejoice at the news." A blow, though this may be to Left-wing folk, there is a case for putting records straight.

Now let us get back to the point. As Mrs Currie pointed out in your columns, for some reason, many of the young "like a fight." When thuggery sets in it has to be dealt with in the same firm manner as one would deal

with a raging bull or mad dog, taking whatever steps would be deemed necessary to crush the rage and madness. That is the significance of Mrs Currie's letter and she recognises what is felt by so many of us: the viciousness has to be dealt with for what it is. — Yours faithfully, Edward Thomas, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

Sir, — She's a little bit off, Edwina. Isn't she? Everything's clear as a cut-glass rose bowl, every field a meadow, every child a joy. The sky is always blue and there's (Tory) blue and there's nothing like hard work for making you feel good. And making you feel good, you know, is what you're doing when you're cleaning the doll's house by Saturday lunch, huh? May I treat you to a trip to Sainsbury's? At least, I'll work it out. It was a night-mare. — Yours, Fiona Ackroyd, Thurstone, Sheffield.

Miscellany

Sir, — The Minister of Health, Mr Kenneth Clarke says the 9 per cent average rise for nurses is a reward for their lack of striking. Its payment in two stages, 5 per cent from April and the full 9 per cent only from February gives an effective yearly average rise of 3.66 per cent. Some reward! With inflation nearly 7 per cent and rising this is another cut for a disgracefully underpaid profession. — Yours faithfully, W. G. Wood, Gillingham, Peterborough.

Sir, — As someone who has let millions of jobs slip away, in the name of monetarism, Mrs Thatcher cannot seriously expect us to believe her argument against disinvestment in South Africa — that 150,000 British jobs would be lost (Guardian June 7).

It is more sensible to believe that her concern lies with the loss of shareholder profit; profit which depends on paying blacks very low wages. Why is she coy of admitting this? After all, paying low wages is something of which she approves; hence the abolition of Wages Councils here in the UK. — Yours sincerely, Janice Theis, 20 Helmsdale, Greenmeadow, Swindon.

Sir, — You are to be congratulated on the unambiguous clarity of the illustrations in the June 7 copy of the Guardian. I am sure others will join me in applauding the minimalist approach to picturing which is such an improvement on the impressionism which we have had to endure for the past few years. — Yours faithfully, Derek Froome, Altrincham, Cheshire.

Sir, — Paddy Ashdown MP writes (Agenda, June 7): "I don't think I'd like to be a public servant in Britain today." What is stopping him from resigning his seat? — Yours etc., M. F. Cliff, Crawley, Sussex.

Sir, — Apropos Terry Coleman's remark to Callaghan about being one of five living ex-premiers, there have been as many on the following occasions:

1924: Baldwin; MacDonald; Lloyd George; Asquith; Balfour; Rosebery.

1984: Wilson; Douglas-Home; Macmillan; Eden; Churchill. Attlee. — Yours faithfully, J. Owan Jones, Mold, Clwyd.

A degree of moderation among young Tories

Sir, — Referring to Michael Brown's article concerning the Federation of Conservative Students (June 4) in which he described the FCS as an exciting new force in our universities, I should like to point out what some of that exciting new force entails.

It is somewhat of an understatement to describe the FCS as the new right, anyone who has read any of their publications will realise how close this Right-wing thinking has got to the verted form of intolerant Right-wing extremism. Slogans such as "Pinochet Hero of the Chilean People" and "Gerry Adams the Next Butcher for you" are not uncommon and indeed typify the current and dangerous ideology which is somehow becoming seen as being acceptable to many Tory MPs. It is in the light of this extremism and intolerance that the FCS has last rather than

gained any support even in moderate Left-wing students' unions such as my own. This is reflected in the more recent setting up of the Conservative Student Unionists who are trying to preserve some form of credible policy.

If the extremist thinking of the FCS is typical of the Conservative Party under Margaret Thatcher then the electorate will have to do more than to choose between

Taking liberties from women

Sir, — David Hencke (June 4) goes some way to identify the effects the Government's green paper on social security will have on the women of this country.

However, to say that women will be "disappointed" by the decision to pay benefits to men, rather than to themselves, is a gross understatement. Faced with the end of the UN Declaration of Women in Civilian with embarrassing little to show for it — we are now

Ruinous work

Sir, — I have worked at Stonehenge and studied its archaeology. So I know it better than most, and know that there is probably as much damage done and litter dropped in two hours from tourists at the height of the season, than in two days by hippies at a rock festival.

It is not the hippies or the latter-day "Druids" who are the root of Stonehenge's problems. The damage is structural damage, etc, but a system of archaeological and historical "protection" that seems to be more interested in making a fast buck than in any aesthetic or educational considerations. Other sites as important in their own way as Stonehenge are totally neglected and farmers, the metal detector brigade and even the Army (especially the Dartmoor) can destroy them with impunity.

Robert Turpin, 4 Westbourne Road, Peverell, Plymouth.

asked to accept the green paper proposals which will push women back at least 10 years and take away much hard-won independence.

The changes to maternity and widows' provisions, the freezing of child benefit, the abolition of state pensions, the emphasis on means-testing and on men as "heads" of households for the purpose of family credit and other benefits will increase rather than decrease the dependence of women on men and bring about greater sexual inequality.

The advances made over the past decade have been slow and painful. Most women are still in low-status, low-paid jobs; are being made redundant before their male counterparts; are single parents or carers of ageing relatives. In the social security system the right of women to claim some benefits on an equal basis with men has only just been established during 1983 and 1984. Yet this principle of equal treatment is already being eroded.

If adopted by Parliament, these proposals will reflect a Victorian view of women as subservient dependants, unequal. Far from making any contribution towards redressing sexual discrimination in Britain today, the green paper proposals will reinforce traditional prejudices even further. — Yours sincerely, Corinne Sweet, NCCL, 21 Tabard Street, London SE1.

Sir, — James Stevens' letter (Guardian Women, June 4), gives a misleading impression of the Citizens Advice Bureau service, and one which might deter potential clients from seeking help.

To suggest that the CAB will not support a landlord in a conflict with a tenant is to miss one of the fundamental principles of the CAB service, that of impartiality. In any correspondence with clients from seeking help, we feel that the law discriminates against the landlord unfairly. That is another matter. As far as the CAB is concerned, any client, be he landlord or tenant, should receive a clear explanation of his rights and any appropriate help and guidance which can be given. — Yours faithfully, P. Downes, St Neots, Cambridgeshire.

A COUNTRY DIARY

THE LAKE DISTRICT: It was a stifling hot in the great oven of Grains Gill but the cooling sight of a patch of old, hard snow half-way up the dark recesses of Central Chimney on Great End helped a little. This was the first day of June in the middle of a heat wave but I remembered climbing the Gapes ridges on the last day of May — early one July, many years ago, and having to kick steps up a steep snow drift that was almost ice-hard. There must have been more-or-less current people around the summit cairn on Scafell Pike but complete solitude and quietude was found on a rocky knoll perhaps 300 yards to the north where the unobstructed views were startlingly clear. The nearer Scottish hills could be picked out just to the east, the huge bulk of Gramsoor, although not this time, the Isle of Man — but much more interesting were the close-up pictures of Great Gable and especially the Napes ridges, the last day of the brilliant afternoon sunlight, with Napes Needle itself easily identifiable without binoculars. Just to the right of Tophet Wall was the only dark shadowed part of the mountain or its crags, the spectacular overhangs above Great Hell Gate up

which, that very evening on Channel Four, I was to watch two leading climbers putting up a desperate, new route. But the most colourful picture on this most beautiful summer afternoon — except to pull me up dead in my trot down the Corridor Route — was a striking juxtaposition of dark, yawning depths and sunlit crags with the soaring fiddles of Gable for background. In the foreground, a superb mountain pool that had caught the cloudless sky in its mirror and reflected it back in matchless royal blue. Was this, indeed, the best day of the summer? — Yours faithfully, A. HARRY GRIFFIN.

Sir, — The recent American tour of President Duarte during which he received an honorary degree from his former university, Notre Dame, is part of an intensive campaign to improve the image of the Salvadorean government.

Duarte and the Reagan Administration wish to represent the Salvadorean government as a triumph of stability over chaos, as a government which is creating stability out of chaos. The enhancement of Duarte and his government's reputation is receiving the full cooperation of the US media.

The visit to London at the end of April of the US isolationist, neo-conservative, military intervention and counter-insurgency have been seen to work. — Yours, S. Thurstfield, Havant, Hants.

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Geoffrey Taylor

TO AGREE with the Prime Minister within those columns is to invite no end of trouble. One is liable to slip into action a readiness conditioned over the years to form a menacing picket line in the space immediately above.

The risk must nevertheless be taken. For Mr Thatcher is a late convert to the televising of the House of Commons. Without television it is not always possible for the interested observer to match voices to faces, and there is one member in particular who is always in evidence at question time but cannot be identified by voice alone because although he utters a call he does not speak.

A radio listener is like an ornithologist who goes on his rambles with Collins' Field

Guide To The Birds of Britain and Europe and a set of Ludwig Koch recordings but never catches sight of his quarry. The call is familiar but the bird is never seen.

The question is what Collins would describe as "a growling, descending 'ear-ear-ear-ear-ear' uttered when stationary". It always contains six syllables, beginning on the C sharp an octave higher, middle C and ending three semitones lower on B flat. It could not therefore be represented in conventional musical notation, where nothing smaller than a semitone is recorded. Although something comparable might be found in a score by Stockhausen.

The puzzling thing is that although the call is invariably made immediately after a question by Mr Enoch Powell it can also be heard as an interjection during Letch speeches in other parts of the chamber, as though the caller were flitting from bench to bench like a chiff-chaff.

The call itself, however, is quite unlike that of a chiff-chaff. Heard together with the other noises in the chamber at the time it perhaps most closely resembles that attributed by Collins to a colony of great crested grebes "backing 'krr-err', a shrill 'er-er-er' and a trumpeing, moaning and whirring noises."

Not all the sounds are equally hard to match with a speaker. That of the Bittern is described as "a harsh 'ark' an audible intake of breath, followed by a deep, booming 'om' some times audible for miles." If the sound is identifiable with the Rev Ian Paisley so, in certain weather conditions, is that of a great reed warbler. "A shrill and loud song harsh and prolonged, audible great distance. Wide range of grating notes, each repeated 2-3 times: 'karr-korr', 'krr-krr', 'krr-krr', 'krr-krr', etc." Collins points out that the great reed warbler is not resident in Britain, but then neither is Mr Paisley.

Probably the roseate tern most closely resembles Mr David Penhaligon with "a soft, very characteristic 'chuck' and a long angry chattering 'kek-kek' and there cannot be much doubt that the red grouse is Mr Francis Pym, when making a display it issues a loud guttural call "go-buk bak bak".

The purpose of this homily is not to detract from the dignity of Parliament but to add to it. One does get the impression, even listening to the nightly half-hour, that the linguistic resources of MPs have been sadly depleted. Discounting the scolding, metallic "chirp" of the Dartford warbler and similar woodland noises

which punctuate the proceedings, the speeches themselves draw on a strictly limited vocabulary. Mr Enoch Powell is one of the few who might stray beyond the confines of basic English crash-course for Bulgarians.

One reason for this could be that there is rarely anything very interesting to talk about, and when there is it is usually Mr Powell who brings it up. It is only a slight exaggeration, whereas thirty years ago parliamentary questions would be about the future government of half of Africa, today several decisions more shrill, they are about adjustments to the marginal rate of supplementary benefit.

These essentially banal and administrative matters do not call for a Burkean or even Gladstonian eloquence, and indeed such eloquence would be hard to listen to for any length of time today. It has largely passed into the hands of the US President's speechwriters (not this President's only but all of them), and even there it is more likely to cause a wince than a cheer in an English listener.

Mistrust of oratory should not be taken, though, as an excuse for allowing words to die out. The OED has 495,000 of them and it shows excessive austerity on the part of parliamentarians to limit themselves to the 900

or so in everyday ejaculatory use. Of course, many of the OED's entries are frankly spurious. They are the back-formation of long-dead pedants wishing to anglicise the Greek. Some again are so ugly in themselves that they can rarely have been spoken: an example from Chambers is decessary, meaning to make less crass.

To wear MP's away from the vicarage tea-parties and teddy bears picnics which they habitually compare every dire event which is about to happen and ask them to exercise more linguistic pluralism is probably a forlorn hope. (On the other hand one is reminded that forlorn hope is quite the wrong term. It does mean a last cause but, again, from the Dutch, a forlorn hoop or body of men exposed to special danger. If the speculation is right several cabinet members are now among their number.)

What is not too much to ask is that those whose calls are familiar should be identified so that they can be ticked on the MP-spotter's checklist. Otherwise they become as much like the grey lag geese of the "ollins" estate and ready gabbling nouns as domestic birds. "Achah-sung" etc distant flock sounds rather like baaing of sheep. And that would really be thoroughly unjust. Legislators have quite enough to do staring at multiple disasters without worrying whether they are faint or not.

recital by Kiri Te Kanawa at the Royal Festival Hall as a solo solo in May last year. The Economist, by contrast, has not used the word once since December, 1981, which is as far back as the computer can remember.

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TROUBLES come not singly for Paris newspapers. Le Monde is still groggy from its recent near bankruptcy and long struggle in the leadership. Only five months ago the bank was threatening to refuse payment of staff salaries. And then Le Monde, founded six years ago as the Left's daily answer to Le Figaro, has had 30 of its 31 top writers quit in protest against a crude takeover by Mitterrand's men.

That leaves only Liberation, Jean-Paul Sartre's old paper, sailing on in saucy serenity — at a distance from everything and everyone, a bit chi-chi, as Le Monde's highly controversial new boss, Max Gallo, described it last week, with more than a hint of sour grapes.

With the Socialist government's popularity dwindling, Le Monde's sales had dropped to a dismal 100,000 when Gallo was parachuted in from the Elysee as part of a wider media operation to drum up support for next year's general election. But now, after the takeover scandal, circulation has dipped well below 80,000. Liberation's figure of 110,000 a year ago is now up beyond 135,000. Its editor-manager, Serge July, retorts of Le Monde: "It was probably dead even before all this happened."

Circulations like these sound puny. Even Le Monde, after a comeback from the doldrums of 1984, claims only 350,000 now. Big circulations in France belong to the provincials which are outside politics.

Andre Fontaine, Le Monde's latest, last-ditch compromise director, admits that the serious French papers' circulations have now reached "a red light warning stage." But he takes comfort from the fact that even in television dominated societies the written word can make a comeback as an "irreplaceable source of fact, cultural background and a guide to practical living."

Maybe, but Washington and Tokyo don't have an Elysee Palace, which, as more than

Le Monde

L'Amorce de l'Inde en

LE MATIN

MEXIQUE TIRE LE DIABLE PAR

Liberation

IBAN: L'ENIGME

ES OTAGES DISPA

Troubled titles, left, and Andre Fontaine, right, editor of Le Monde. The bickering goes on

Le Monde's top journalists walk out. Le Monde staggers on under a new survival plan, and even booming Liberation sees clouds on the horizon: Walter Schwarz reports from Paris

The trembling bulwarks of the Left

one journalist complained, "it is even more determined to control the media than Giscard was."

Fontaine, an international affairs writer, who could marshal encyclopaedic knowledge into elegant paragraphs, has not been known as a leader. He came bottom of the poll during the battle of Le Monde's clans in 1980. Claude Julien, head of the left-leaning clan, won only to be ousted a month later in a scuffle over a staff dismissal.

The first compromise man, Andre Laurens, had to bow out when the paper bordered on bankruptcy. His plan for survival was for two separate

editions of different formats, evening in Paris and morning in the provinces, with no additional staff.

"It would have meant a 20 hour shift," said one journalist who helped vote Laurens out.

Fontaine's own scheme, involves a £3 million outside shareholding. It is the ultimate sacrifice but he promised that new shareholders will be "known friends, in the minority and diversified," and the journalists' company will retain control. He has cut staff costs at all levels including printers by 20 per cent and the ramshackle, hopelessly overcrowded building near the Opera is up

for sale. But no one yet knows where or when Le Monde will move.

Last week when the package was finally approved by shareholders, including the journalists' company, Fontaine said in a front page editorial that it had all been "a good journey for our democratic institutions which have come in for misguided criticism."

This was greeted with hollow laughter by the remaining critics. There is a feeling that the worst is probably over, but the main challenges are ahead, computerisation, provincial printing, evening-or-morning publication. And the bickering remains.



"These salary cuts hit those in the losing clan much harder than the rest: there was a settling of old scores," one journalist (salary cut by £750) complained.

More than 230 administrative staff and printers were persuaded to leave. Six journalists refused their reduced pay packets and left.

These included the prestigious Middle East writer, Eric Rouleau (a member of the losing clan) who was offered a £3,000 cut in his £25,000 salary, although extra compensation was at hand: he is about to be named ambassador in Tunisia. For others, it wasn't that easy. One said: "The trouble

is, from Le Monde you can only move downwards."

Over at Le Monde's newer offices, between the Bourse and Les Halles, the atmosphere is gloomy: the departed journalists have not yet been replaced by the new appointees.

Max Gallo, the boss, brought in by the Elysee, is a novelist. He made an excellent job of it when Mitterrand appointed him France's first government spokesman. The outraged journalists who went said they had spent four years making a paper of the Left credible and critical. Gallo disagrees. "That's all wrong; in fact, they failed and we have a poll to show

that this paper has always been seen as a government organ.

"From now on, we're not government and not party: we represent that section of France, something between 30 and 50 per cent, which thinks of itself as the Left, agreeing on some very limited propositions. There is not another newspaper to do that job."

Le Monde's troubles began when Mitterrand won power in 1981: it lost readers. The government disliked it too, suspecting of supporting Rocard, Mitterrand's main socialist challenger. The owner found that nationalised banks and other official groups stopped providing funds — and sold. Max Theret, a businessman with no press experience, bought the title and money now came in from Elysee friends and institutions.

One of the gloomiest remaining writers on the staff said: "Mitterrand wants us for next year's general elections, perhaps for the presidential in 1988. And that will be the end."

All this leaves Liberation more confident than ever. A man in Le Monde said: "We still have our 1700 conference, when heads of departments stand in a circle around the director. The difference now is that everyone is clutching his morning Libe."

But July sees problems ahead for Libe. "We have to have computerisation, with direct journalists' input. Our journalists, unlike others, agree, but not the printers. Time is against us. We told the printers we could do it without redundancies this year, even next year. The year after will be too late. It will be much more painful then."

Will Le Monde go tabloid and publish in the morning, directly rivaling Libe in Paris and the provinces? Perhaps it will, said July. "But that would be bad for us both: in the end one or other will go under," he hinted that the other would not be Liberation.

Media File....

PROFESSOR PEACOCK needs you! Which is to say that the Committee On Financing the BBC has gathered, and though meeting only fortnightly, needs you until August 31 to put in writing your thoughts on the subject. Unfortunately the original invitation coincided with the Brussels soccer disaster, not little attention, but Alan Peacock now writes to solicit ideas from anyone, "concerning the methods by which advertising or sponsorship could be introduced into the BBC's home services and the effects such action might have," and for ideas by which the consumer might pay up other than through the licence fee.

If that makes it sound like a foregone conclusion, the full document setting out the committee's interests runs to a couple of pages, sets out a list of 15 possible questions for starters, and makes it clear that the Home Secretary's brief required the committee to consider not just raising money for the BBC but what impact that might have on ITV, IR, the press, the advertising industry, cable, DBS (not least!) for the Exchequer.

Leon Brittan also wants his brother Sam and the others not to come up with a single "voluntary" idea, a range of options and assess their advantages and disadvantages.

With the hols approaching, the August 31 deadline seems a bit tight, and liable to elicit the existing opinions of the existing declared interests rather than encourage new ideas. The Peacock Committee does, after all, have until next summer to deliver. But for the moment this is the name of the game, and anyone keen to join in would be well advised not just to start writing but first to get the full and interesting list of questions from the committee's secretary.

Robert Eagle, Room T1077, Committee On Financing the BBC, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT.

THE HOME Secretary himself will get a chance to hear from one sector of the media already deeply troubled about advertising revenue — the BBC a slice — when he opens the First Annual Congress of the Association of Independent Radio Contractors (that's the commercial radio companies) on July 3. After a dozen years' existence, the Independent Radio people are so confident of their position that they have created this Annual Congress to replace the old half-day members' meetings, and they are welcoming the press to publicise the Home Secretary's presence and his speech. That's at 10 am. At 11 am the hacks get kicked out so that they can keep in private.

THE SHADOW of Brussels falls not just on sport. Anyone concerned with the booze business has sensed the chill, and it was felt last week at the Advertising Association's symposium with the frank title: The Threat to Alcohol Drink Advertising. In fact, the event had been set up well in advance, and in response to pressure from other overseas sources.

This is one area in which advertisers see possibilities for using the new international media, notably satellite television, since their products cross frontiers. But it is also one in which the European Commission's efforts to create "television without frontiers" seems most liable to produce tighter regulations rather than greater freedom, and such countries as France impose much stiffer rules than Britain's codes on alcohol advertising.

Meanwhile, on the magazine puts a new US swing to booze-free tipping on its front cover, advertisers here also fear a moral and medical backlash that would take no notice of their well-prepared international surveys showing that advertising does not increase consumption, just changes the flavour of the month.

A notable theme in this gathering of industry luminaries, however, was the plea that brewers, vintners, distillers, and other agencies, should stick scrupulously to existing codes, and never, never, try to make the pleasures of alcohol seem greater than now allowed. No one said it out loud, but there is a sense that some tobacco interests have been pushing their luck on the sponsored sport front, and the drink people do not want to get tarred with nicotine's brush.

EDUCATIONAL FOOTNOTE. Young journo eager to polish their craft could have learnt a lot last week in following the Fleet Street pack's coverage of the "BBC bloodletting" (one man promoted yawn). Note in particular the classic Derby Day demo of the "back-bitch-horses intro" with which Brian James whipped into a full-page analysis, ahead of the BBC governors' decision, for the Daily Mail: "The disclosures in The Times yesterday, on the future of the moribund BBC, is vastly informative even if it proves wholly inaccurate."

Peter Fiddick
Media Editor

With three men controlling two out of three newspapers bought in Britain James Curran argues for a public funding agency to curtail press monopoly

How public force could break the grip of the giants

Press File....

THE SIXTIES gave rise to many simple expectations that have turned sour. Among them was the seemingly sensible idea that you could stop the concentration of press ownership by giving governments the power to veto the purchase of newspapers by the big publishing groups.

The idea became law in 1965. Since then, the big press chains have bought entirely unhindered by anti-monopoly legislation, over 80 newspaper companies. The market share of the five leading regional press groups has more than doubled. And Rupert Murdoch has amassed a press empire in Britain that far exceeds in circulation that controlled even by Lord Northcliffe in his prime.

It is time we acknowledged that the current anti-monopoly curbs are not working.

and considered a new approach. The simplest way to scale down the size of press conglomerates is to impose a limit on the number of newspapers that any one individual or group can control.

A modest but politically feasible plan would be to limit proprietors to a controlling interest in no more than 50 local weeklies, 10 local dailies and three national papers. This would force Murdoch to shed one national paper and the overweight Pearson group to lose 23 weeklies.

Publishers of newspapers should also be disqualified from owning voting shares in radio or television organisations (although they could still retain non-voting shares). In this way, commercial broadcasting could be reconstituted as a wholly separate and independent counterweight to the press monopolies.

But although these proposals sound simple enough, they would give rise to serious difficulties. Some margins would be difficult to find new takers for their divested press shares. Murdoch would

probably dump the loss-making Times whose future without a cross-subsidy from his profitable papers would be uncertain. Some of Pearson's weeklies are in none too rosy a shape, while its more profitable divested papers could well be swallowed up by other press chains, thereby frustrating the whole point of the exercise.

To propose therefore, as the Labour Party did in its 1983 General Election manifesto, "breaking up major concentrations of press ownership" without thinking through the consequences is not very sensible. The key to making new anti-monopoly measures work is to set up a public funding agency which would finance alternative ownership of divested media.

A Media Enterprise Board should be established along the lines of the successful and independent Greater London Enterprise Board, with the difference that it would be subject to detailed parliamentary scrutiny. It could enable, through low interest loans, news and innovative forms of ownership that would extend the diversity of the media.

For example, consortia of Times employees could run their own paper without Murdoch's direction. Radio Tay (with 42 per cent of its shares owned by local papers) could be established as a local public trust; new consortia, recruited from outside the magic circle of monopoly capital, liberated from the Pearson group.

The board would also need to finance development plans for loss making media separated from the umbilical cord of corporate subsidy. Those who object to this on the grounds that it could be a waste of taxpayers' money should be reminded of one thing: these media are already being subsidised by the taxpayer since their conglomerate parents set the losses on these media against tax.

The board should also provide start-up loan capital for new launches across the full spectrum of the media. Otherwise there is a danger that it could become a real home for interest loans, news and innovative forms of ownership that would extend the diversity of the media.

new tax on all media advertising. Even at only one per cent it would yield a gross annual revenue of over £35 million.

But why go to all the trouble of divesting media and introducing a new tax and media bank when we could settle for the apparently more straightforward policy of tightening curbs on future mergers? The Fair Trading Act could be strengthened by putting the onus on the press chains to show that acquisition of new titles is not contrary to the public interest rather than the other way round.

The criteria for referring cases to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (which is more tough-minded than public consciousness) should also be made less permissive.

But desirable though these reforms are, they do not represent an easy, soft option. So long as the chains can convincingly argue that a merger is the only way of saving an endangered paper, most mergers will continue to be allowed by governments, even with tougher regula-

tions. Only if there are realistic alternatives to mergers, funded by a Media Enterprise Board, can tougher anti-monopoly curbs be made to stick.

A policy aimed solely at forestalling further newspaper acquisitions in the future is, in any case, not enough because it does not measure up to the scale of the problems we have inherited. Britain now has the highest level of press concentration of any democracy in the world, with just three men — Murdoch, Matthews and Maxwell — controlling two out of three papers (national and local) bought in Britain.

Recent developments make this drift towards press concentration particularly alarming. The new generation of Fleet Street proprietors interfere much more extensively in the editorial affairs of their press empire than their predecessors did in the 1960s.

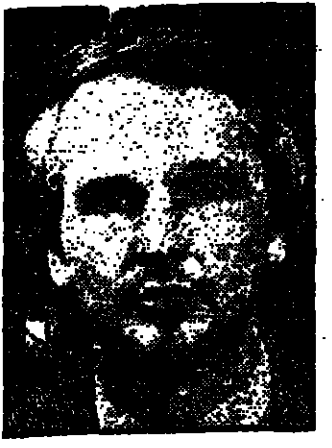
The largest weekly chain, controlled by the Pearson group, has also become the most centralised of the local chains. This more autocratic

style of management within these groups is restricting the free flow of information and opinion.

Proprietorial power is also being exercised in a way that compromises the editorial integrity of the press because most of the new proprietors have major investments outside the media. This is giving rise to no-go areas for reporting.

Divestment measures are needed to reverse these trends. Indeed, it is time we asked the News, Right, how genuine and committed they really are to competition in the marketplace of ideas. The need for greater competition has been the central theme of their attack on the BBC. Are they now prepared to apply the same arguments to the commercial monopolists that dominate our press?

James Curran is Head of the Department of Communications, Goldsmiths' College, University of London. A revised edition of his book, *Power Without Responsibility: The Press and Broadcasting in Britain* (with Jean Seaton) was published by University Paperbacks, Methuen, on June 6.



CABLE 1

Peter Fiddick offers the Montreux festival a rock channel's hit formula while, far right, Maggie Brown tries to pin down BT on investment

Single-minded — Music Box's Marcus Bicknell



Catchy theme that stands by itself

THE WEATHER may have continued lousy, but it was a sweaty time again for cable television in Britain last week, and the outrage of its newest tycoon, Robert Maxwell, was palpable. But with the American movie producers pulling the plug on TEN — the Movie Channel, his ire was understandable. Not only does he have a large stake in the feature film channel, through his ownership of the Rediffusion Cablevision systems, but its star attractions — Streisand's Yentl coming this month — are the magnet for new subscribers to the entire pay-TV cable package.

To lose a premium movie service would be a marketing disaster at a crucial time, when he is pitching to hook people up in large numbers ahead of the full autumn-winter season. The prospect of betrayed customers unbuckled in June would be a disaster for almost everyone, except maybe the rival movie service, Premiere.

The pull-out was a shock even to insiders who had seen the UTP group — representing MGM, Paramount, MCA Universal, and other

leading US film owners — pulling out of direct participation in other European systems. Negotiations for an orderly restructuring of the TEN consortium's shareholdings had been in train. By the weekend, Maxwell, BT, Rank, and others had mounted a rescue operation, but the mess is left and the strains made embarrassingly public.

The affair will reverberate in Switzerland today, where the Montreux Television Symposium gathers, and with British Telecom declaring itself not cool but certainly cautious about its cable plans (as Maggie Brown reports) it is just as well that at least one British cable pioneer is presently standing up and telling the assembly he has good news. Good news, that is, for his outfit.

Marcus Bicknell is marketing boss of Music Box, the rock channel in Thorn EM's cable-satellite stable (along with the children's Channel and a slice of Premiere). Though the music and children's channels are being fed to British cable viewers as part of their basic package, along with ScreenSport and Rupert Murdoch's Sky channel, Bicknell's main concern, like Murdoch's, has been in

continental Europe, where many more homes are already on cable, where expansion is getting government funding in important markets, and where cable operators are keen to pull new services off the satellite from London.

At the end of the rainbow are vast transnational audiences to be delivered to new transnational advertisers. The message Bicknell will deliver at Montreux is that the first sets of independent audience research on cable subscribers in Switzerland show Music Box as the most popular non-German language channel, gaining 8 per cent of all viewing time.

Across a week more than 50 per cent of eight to 35-year-olds watch it at some time, and although the peaks are at lunch-time and, more importantly, early-evening, there is a significant child rating through the day.

The figures — an average of 1 per cent of the subscribing audience through the day — are not huge, Bicknell makes two key points about them. First, advertisers can find an audience probably not otherwise available, and tightly targeted — Mars is already using the channel, and the trendy Swiss makers sponsor the Music Box hourly time-checks.

But, more generally, he

claims: "We now have the proof that the thematic channel works. It gets to an audience, and in a different way from the mixed-programming channels, consistently, through the day."

And this is the message some of the other cable channel aspirants may not find so agreeable. Apart from Sky, which is a mixed-schedule channel, most of the planned direct-broadcast satellite channels appear to be going for a similar mix. And that, claims Bicknell, is less likely to work because all the traditional channels are offering that (the comedy, then the movie at 8 pm, then ...)

CABLE 2

BT cash waits on pilot returns

BRITAIN'S infant cable industry needs sugar daddies, indulgent enough to cough up the costs of putting optic fibre into the ground and through to the homes, rich enough not to demand instant repayment.

British Telecom has long been targeted by cable operators as the ideal candidate, a sure-fire source of risk finance now that the city has turned deeply sceptical.

But last month in the first round of talks to agree with the Cable Authority licensing body to be a rolling programme of new franchises, BT remained firmly aloof. It applied for none of the five franchises.

CIT Research, expert commentators on the industry, were moved to pronounce that BT "has gone cool on cable." So has yet another prop been kicked away?

"Not so," says Mr Colin Browne, the 39-year-old recently appointed chief executive of BT's Broadband Services company, which draws together all its cable television activity. "We are waiting to see what happens."

He rules BT out of round two of the franchises, due to be announced next month, though not necessarily from the third expected towards the end of this year. But from Spring 1986 onwards BT could be interested in backing perhaps two or three new franchises a year, an annual commitment of £100 million upwards. But it depends.

"We've decided it's prudent to wait, to see whether there is a market out there," he says. "I'd personally be surprised if there isn't."

So BT is currently pressing ahead with three of the five initial pilot franchises it won 16 months ago; its engineers, in an arms length deal, are cabling the first segments of

Aberdeen, Westminster and Coventry: the £100 million plus required to complete those seems firmly committed by BT.

In these test beds BT is laying systems that will cost £20 million per 100,000 homes, the average franchise area. It has also taken up an average 20 per cent shareholding in their operating companies too, hoping by some date in the 1990s for a stream of dividend payments.

BT will press the button — or not — on further investments on similar lines once the feedback starts streaming in from September.

Mr Browne is a realist. He doesn't think the pilot areas will produce an overwhelming "image building" effect. "But I will need sufficient information to convince my board that £30 million per new franchise will be money well spent," he says.

BT has to agree with current thinking that the best way to attract subscribers to pay television is by offering entertainment channels. The more worthy, educational services remain "imponderable."

Mr Browne also suspects there will need to be an industry-wide programme of "image building" at some point, as has happened in America, to give cable a more up-market, desirable glow, attractive to all those "Yuppies" the advertisers want.

Broadband is clearly interested in adding a Satellite Mast Antennae Television operation, to exploit the liberalised satellite reception rules.

It is also clearly aware that the third strand of cable — marketing premium programmes for which people will keep paying — needs some attention. It has taken a small stake in a planned new Lifestyle channel, and may be looking at further involvement.

Engineering installation costs, which affect the rental charges of any BT-cable network, are also currently being investigated. BT Broadband is aware that costs will need to be cut.

So, the overall impression is one of caution, but nothing like the wall of opposition you meet in the City.

Public Relations Officer

up to £12,000

Logica is a leader in the field of information technology. Our staff, our turnover, our expertise and our reputation have grown consistently and impressively since 1969. More than 2000 people in 10 countries now work for Logica on projects at the forefront of computing, communications and office technology.

We need a public relations officer who can continue to develop Logica's high quality image in a broad range of market sectors, including banking and finance, manufacturing, energy, telecommunications, space and defence. We are looking for someone to give a high priority to press relations activities such as copy writing, liaising with national and technical news media and organising press briefings.

It will also be necessary to effectively plan and carry out a variety of public relations projects with other members of the Public Relations department.

The key qualities we seek are versatility, creativity, an understanding of the computing industry, sound writing skills and several years' relevant experience. We offer a job with interest, variety and scope for development, in a company recognised internationally for its innovation and sustained growth.

If you are interested please write enclosing brief career details to Jennifer Williams quoting ref: PR/1, Logica plc, 64 Newman Street, London W1A 4SE or phone 01-637 9111 Ext. 2587

logica

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SUB-EDITOR

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Salary is negotiable.

Apply to Elsie Powell, Editor-in-Chief, 12-18 Paul Street, London EC2A 4JS.

Assistant Regional Public Relations Officer

(£8,744 - £10,736 p.a.)

This is a demanding and rewarding post, promoting the many varied and expanding activities, aims and objectives of a Health Region which covers five counties with a population of 4.5 million and 200 health premises. We are seeking a professional communicator to advise on a wide range of press and public relations matters. Experience in journalism and/or public relations is essential. Applicants should be familiar with the operations of a large organisation and preferably possess a relevant professional qualification (e.g. N.C.J.T. or C.A.M.).

The position is based at our headquarters on the outskirts of Sheffield but as some travelling throughout the Region is involved a driving licence is essential.

Application forms and further details from: Regional Personnel Officer, Fawcett House, 64 Fawcett Road, Sheffield S10 3TH (Tel. Sheffield 0742 308511 ext. 394) quoting ref: AR25.

Closing date: 21st June 1985.
trent
REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE POLYTECHNIC

Faculty of Art and Design
School of Visual Studies

RESEARCH POST 'Art in the Public Context'

Ref. RA23/85

Suitably qualified and experienced artist to investigate the efficacy of, and operate within, the area of public sculpture. The product of the research would be manifest in the sculpture produced by the artist and in the documentation recording the evolution of the artwork.

The successful applicant would be expected to register for a higher degree of the C.N.A.A.
Salary Researcher A' £5,910 - £6,657 p.a. (Pay Award Pending)
For further details and application forms please call our 24 hour telephone answering service (0632 323128) or write enclosing a foolscap s.s.e. to Mrs. Linda Morris, Admin Asst (Recruitment), Newcastle upon Tyne Polytechnic, Elton Building, Elton Place, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8ST, to whom completed forms should be returned quoting the ref. by 5.75

NO FAT SALARY NO PROMISES NO EASY WAY NO HOLIDAY

We are a group of rapidly expanding companies in the fields of communication, information and marketing.

We are preparing for the future and are looking for the right individuals to participate in a long term management programme.

We are looking to train people for future entrepreneurial and managerial roles, and require people who have no reservations about working within a disciplined and personally demanding organisational context.

The rewards could be high, but you have to be willing to start at the bottom and undergo a rigorous training programme.

If you are a graduate, in your twenties, and want to find out more, ring for a first interview.

Call me, Peter Robeson on: 01-242 4000.

Recruitment Consultants

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Salary: Negotiable Central London

We are Scottish Television, the Independent Television contractor for Central Scotland and we are looking for a Marketing Research Executive to work in our London office.

The five offices of the Sales Department need to know what makes their clients tick and they rely, for their research data, on the London Marketing Research Department, so you need to be a good communicator.

You will also need to be articulate as reports are often required beyond the straight presentation of figures and they may have to be understood by people who are not research orientated.

There are several different data sources to become acquainted with so if you have a working knowledge of TGI and the various AGB data sources that will be an advantage.

That advantage would be increased if you also have a knowledge of the very complex world of media. Finally, we are increasing our use of micro-computers for both local processing and on-line accessing of data, so, we would prefer that you know your way around "D-Base" and one or more computer languages.

An extremely attractive package awaits you plus the opportunity to be part of a successful sales force.

Please apply in writing for an application form to:
Miss Jill A. Kelly
Scottish Television plc
7 Adelaide Street
LONDON WC2N 4LZ



ELECTRONICS SHOWCASE ASSISTANT EDITOR

Launched earlier this year 'Showcase' has already established itself as a front runner in the electronics press and now needs an Assistant Editor. The vacancy would suit either an experienced electronics journalist or a graduate in electronic engineering or a related discipline, and applicants should be able to work under pressure to tight deadlines.

The company will be moving shortly to new offices and offers a comprehensive benefits package. A competitive salary commensurate with experience is offered.

If you are interested in this excellent career opportunity contact Michael Knowles on 01-280 8868, or send a full C.V. to:

Technipress Publishing Co. Ltd, Walton House,
93, High Street, Bromley, Kent BR1 1TW

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DAVID DAVIES ASSOCIATES

Urgently require a **Finished Artist/Production Designer**, to work with our team of enthusiastic young designers.

You should have 3-4 years experience at a senior level in the production of finished art. You will be liaising with clients and printers, and buying type to typographic skills and the ability to communicate are essential.

This is an exciting opportunity for a young person to join London's most energetic design consultancy.
Salary negotiable.
Please send a comprehensive CV to:
Carole Houston at 20 Chancery Street,
London WC1E 7EX.

EDITOR - FINANCIAL MAGAZINE

The editorship of a new international financial magazine has unexpectedly fallen vacant. A person is sought who can establish a reputation for editorial excellence and substantial resources are available to achieve this.

The position involves considerable travel and the remuneration will reflect its importance being attractive to well qualified applicants. The successful candidate will possess proven editorial skills, together with knowledge of the financial world.

Please write giving details of your qualifications and experience to:

JAMES WOOTTEN
P. J. PUBLICATIONS
150 CALEDONIAN ROAD,
LONDON N1 9RD.

DANCE ANIMATEUR

Sefton Borough Council, Merseyside Arts, and the Arts Council of Great Britain, wish to appoint a Dance Animateur based at Southport Arts Centre at a fee equivalent to £7,500 per annum.

Further information and application form (which should be returned by 25th June, 1985), available from: Merseyside Arts, Bluecoat Chambers, Liverpool L1 3BX. THIS IS A RE-ADVERTISEMENT AND PREVIOUS APPLICANTS NEED NOT APPLY.

MARSHALL CAVENDISH MAGAZINES

Marshall Cavendish Magazines offer exciting opportunities to join this new and expanding company.

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- To be responsible for:
- Supervising and coordinating the work of the sub-editors.
- Liaising between advertising and editorial departments.
- Ensuring production schedules are maintained through all editorial stages.
- Co-ordinating the work of editorial, production and advertising departments.

Applicants must already have experience in magazines, preferably in women's interest areas. The ideal candidate will have an eye for detail, proven organizational ability and the temperament to cope well under pressure. Salary negotiable. Please write, enclosing your CV and details of your present salary to Sarah Parr.

**FREELANCE FOOD WRITERS
& JOURNALISTS**
For full and part-time work, working in-house or from home. Applicants must have writing experience, a good knowledge of food, ability to write clearly and creative ideas for features. Please write to Pepita Aris, enclosing samples of your writing with your CV.

FREELANCE COOKERY EDITORS

For full and part-time work. We need in-house cookery editors who have several years' experience in editing illustrated cookery publications. A good knowledge of food is essential. Please write to Pepita Aris, enclosing your CV.

FREELANCE MAGAZINE DESIGNERS

We need creative designers with enthusiasm, lots of ideas and magazine experience. A sound knowledge of typography and magazine layout is essential. Experience of working with photographers and illustrators would be an advantage. Please write to Len Roberts, enclosing your CV.

FREELANCE WRITERS:

CONSUMER AFFAIRS
To research/write regular consumer features. We need writers with:
• A good knowledge of current food products and kit, etc.
• Magazine experience in consumer affairs.
This job does not require working in-house - although regular visits to our offices will be necessary. Please write to Carol Steiger enclosing samples of your writing with your CV.

Please send all applications to:
Marshall Cavendish Magazines Ltd, 58 Old Compton Street, London W1V 5PA

Moderators

The Business & Technician Education Council requires additional Moderators to work on a part-time basis at National and Higher National levels in all areas of the Council's work at Further and Higher Education Establishments in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Moderator helps to establish and maintain the standard of the Council's awards by monitoring the operation, development and vocational relevance of BTEC courses.

BTEC is in the process of establishing a Register of Moderators and would welcome applications from people employed in industry as well as in educational environments. Applicants should have experience in educating, training or employing young people and should be aware of the standards required by employers as well as the aims of the Council.

Some training and support will be provided by our centrally and regionally based staff. Fees and expenses will be paid.

Further details and application form are obtainable by sending name and address on a postcard to:

Moderator Section,
BTEC,
Central House,
Upper Woburn Place,
London WC1H 0HH.



SCUNTHORPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Leisure & Recreation Department

Principal Arts and Tourism Officer

PO (SCP 39-42) £11,888 - £12,961 per annum

The postholder will be directly responsible to the Chief Leisure and Recreation Officer for the expanding programme of cultural provision within the Borough both through the award winning Museum and Art Gallery Service and in the performing arts field.

The successful candidate will also be charged with exploiting the tourist potential of the area to the full, and with attracting conference trade to a town which totally belies its sometimes unfortunate public image.

Applicants, who should preferably hold a relevant degree qualification, must be capable of demonstrating an innovative approach to management, and should possess specific marketing skills evolved during previous work experience in arts administration and/or the tourism industry.

The successful applicant will be expected to join the appropriate Trade Union.

Further details are available from the Chief Leisure & Recreation Officer, Scunthorpe Borough Council, Civic Centre, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN16 1AB (Tel. 0724 862141, ext. 220).

The closing date for applications is Monday, 1st July, 1985.

FINAL YEAR GRADUATES

CENTRAL LONDON C. £8,500

We are a top consultancy specialising in the field of MEDIA ADVERTISING and are currently recruiting 20 TRAINEE SALES EXECUTIVE level for Britain's most successful TV STATIONS and PUBLISHING HOUSES. These positions offer extensive training, attractive basic salaries and commission schemes, excellent career prospects and the opportunity to work as part of a young lively sales team.

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Standards Mean Business!

British Standards are quality publications of national standing, and our editing team are a key task force in their preparation. If you enjoy detailed, disciplined editing on a wide range of technical subjects and making full use of your communications and liaison skills, then you could meet the challenge. Degree plus at least two years' editing experience.

Conditions include a starting salary of £8,151 p.a. 5 weeks' holiday, contributory pension plan, season ticket loans. For more information and an application form, please contact:

Elspeth MacArthur Senior Personnel Officer
British Standards Institution
2 Park Street, LONDON, W1A 2BS
Tel: (01) 629 9000, Ext. 3066

DEPTFORD COMMUNITY RADIO PROJECT RESEARCH WORKER

Deptford Community Radio project urgently seeks a worker for six months to carry out research and explore the possibilities of community radio in the North-West Lewisham area. Local knowledge desirable. The post is funded by the GLC.

Salary £4,544. Job sharers welcome. Please send a detailed letter of application giving previous work experience etc., by July 1st to Wayne Bennett, Goldsmith's College Students' Union, Lewisham Way, London SE14 6NW.

We are an equal opportunities employer.

PUBLISHING DIRECTOR DESIGNATE £25,000 +

Charles Letts and Co Ltd, brand leaders in international dairy publishing and with a growing strength in educational publishing, are seeking an experienced professional to head their publishing division.

The person we appoint to this key position will have a proven record in book or magazine publishing, and particularly in the creation and development of successful published products. Enthusiasm and the ability to motivate and direct substantial editorial and design teams are essential, as is an appetite for rising to the special challenges of dairy and educational publishing.

The preferred age range is 35-45, and candidates must have a suitable arts degree or similar qualification, and must have held a senior position for at least five years.

The company will be looking to promote the successful candidate to the Board position of Publishing Director in approximately a year.

The remuneration package includes a prestige car, a generous pension scheme, and assisted medical insurance.

If you think you could meet the challenges of this important job, write with full CV to W. J. Swords, Managing Director, Charles Letts & Co Ltd, 77 Borough Road, London SE10 1DW.

Letts

SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

(SO 1/2: £9,477-£11,025 p.a.)

The Polytechnic is seeking to appoint a School Administrative Officer for the operational and administrative management of one of the leading Schools of Studies in the Art and Design area in the United Kingdom. Major responsibilities of the post include the Secretaryship of the School Board of Studies and its sub-committee structure and the executive management of the School's operational systems.

Previous experience in arts administration or in higher education would be an advantage.

Further details and form of application are available from The Staff Officer, Trent Polytechnic, Burton Street, Nottingham NG1 4BU. Closing date 28th June, 1985.

**TRENT
POLYTECHNIC
NOTTINGHAM**

Southmen Arts VISUAL ARTS OFFICER

(£7,524 - £11,025)

Applications are invited for this senior post based in Winchester. Applicants should have proven administrative ability and a special knowledge of contemporary visual arts.

Further details and application forms from:
The Administrative Officer
Southern Arts Association
19 Southgate Street
Winchester
Hampshire SO2 9DQ
Telephone: (0962) 55099

Completed application forms should arrive not later than Friday 28th June 1985.

CITY OF NOTTINGHAM An Equal Opportunity Employer ARTS DEPARTMENT

TEMP. EXHIBITIONS OFFICER

Ref A/5951 Scale 5 £7,524 - £8,262

To assist with the provision of a temporary exhibition service at the City Museum, Nottingham, with the specific aim of enhancing the presentation of modern art and a contemporary view of art in Nottingham and its museums.

Applicants should hold appropriate qualifications and have previous museum experience.

TEMP. EXHIBITIONS TECHNICIAN

Ref A/5952 Scale 2 £5,238 - £5,769

The post holder will assist in the preparation of temporary travelling exhibitions and displays. Applicants should have qualifications in Design/Craft and a knowledge of display techniques would be an advantage.

Both above posts are for a five year period subject to continued funding. Application forms and further details available from the Personnel Officer, City Secretary's Department, The Guildhall, Nottingham NG1 5EP. Tel: (0602 41671) ext 3824. Please quote appropriate ref. no. on applying. Closing date for applications 28th June 1985.

KEYBOARD OPERATOR

For Quadtek 1610 PHOTSETTER

Must be conscientious and accurate

Also conscientious and accurate

WP OPERATOR or TYPIST

to train as keyboard operator for small friendly firm in Victoria

EXPEDITE GRAPHIC LTD. - 01-222 3213

PUBLIC RELATIONS £14,500

The BMA, representing the UK medical profession, wants an Assistant Head for its Press, Parliamentary and Public Information Division. The Division is responsible for developing and carrying out the BMA's external communications, promoting BMA policies on health issues, including ethical dilemmas, medical science, the NHS and employment conditions generally.

Based in London, applicants for this post will join a team of ten and will be required to give advice on the formulation of the Association's overall Public Relations strategy, to implement campaigns and to manage the public and scientific information work of the Division. The post holder will deputise in the absence of the Head of Division.

Applications are invited from non-smokers with at least seven years' experience in Public Relations, and a relevant qualification would be an advantage. Experience of campaigning on issues of public policy is essential. Benefits include a contributory pension scheme and six weeks' paid annual leave. Full details of previous experience and personal history should be sent in writing to Mrs B. E. Dyer, Personnel Manager, BMA, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP. (to arrive no later than Monday 24th June).

The BMA is an equal opportunities employer.

Faculty of Art & Design
Cornwall College of Further & Higher Education
Redruth, Cornwall TR15 3RD

Senior Lecturer in Computer Graphics

Salary Scale: £11,175-£14,061 (under review)

The Faculty is looking for an artist/designer with knowledge and experience of current computer-generated graphics. He or she will be appointed to the B.A. (Hons) Scientific and Technical Graphics course team with specific responsibility to teach computer-aided graphic design applications and integrate this element with the overall objectives of the course and establish a research programme.

The successful candidate will also co-ordinate and control the expansion of computer hardware and software within the Faculty and liaise with the College Micro Electronic Centre to maximise the computing facility available to design students.

Experience of teaching at CMAA degree level in design will be an advantage, but is not essential.

Application form and further details of the above vacancy may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Principal, to whom all completed application forms should be returned within two weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

*Telephone requests will not be accepted.

Cornwall College of Further
and Higher Education
Redruth, Cornwall TR15 3RD.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

YRM Partnership is a busy, well-established design practice with a staff of 300, including architects, interior designers, engineers and administrative staff. We have a reputation for designing buildings of quality and have won many design awards for our work. We are currently involved in major projects in the UK and overseas, including the second terminal for London's Gatwick Airport, the new university for the Sultanate of Oman, a District General Hospital for East London and corporate office buildings for international corporations.

We need an intelligent and motivated person with plenty of initiative and enthusiasm to promote the practice to the press, the building industry and clients.

The job would involve dealing with press relations, commissioning photography of the firm's completed projects, organizing exhibitions and special functions and developing new promotional aids.

The job would suit someone with previous publicity experience, who has the maturity and confidence to deal with people at all levels and has a positive interest in architecture and design and a working knowledge of the building industry.

Please reply to:
Mr G A E Young
24 Britton Street
London EC1M 5NQ



YRM
PARTNERSHIP

Editorial Co-ordinator

London
£12,418-£15,571

The Design Division of The Post Office is responsible for the creation of special stamps, their related products and for the control and co-ordination of design activities throughout the business as a whole.

The successful candidate will become a member of a small creative department with particular responsibilities for:

- Thoroughly researching subjects to be commemorated by special stamps.
 - Commissioning specialist writers to prepare support material and philatelic related products.
 - Scheduling and administering the design and editorial aspects of the stamp programme.
 - Preparing other editorial material related to the implementation of design standards throughout the business.
 - The Secretariat of the Corporate Identity and Design Committee.
- The work includes proof-reading and correcting, editorial supervision and some copyright clearance.
- He or she will also liaise with outside authors, designers and institutions.
- The Post Office is an equal opportunities employer.

Qualifications

Candidates should have significant editorial or publishing experience. They should also normally have a good degree or an equivalent qualification in a relevant subject, together with a knowledge of typelaces and sizes, printing terminology and the conventions of the trade.

An interest in design, art and history would be an advantage.

Salary is in the range £12,418-£15,571.

Candidates would normally expect to start at the minimum of the range quoted, which includes Inner London Weighting allowance; however, a higher starting salary may be offered for exceptional qualifications or experience.

For an application form please write, quoting reference PHO/SU.1.1/CA.10: Mrs P. Gavin, RM 154, Armour House, St Martins-Le-Grand, London EC1A 1AP. (Closing date 30 June 1985).

COVENTRY CITY COUNCIL

COVENTRY CENTRE FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS
SCHOOL OF THEATRE STUDIES

Lecturer I in Technical Theatre Skills and Stage Management

Required from September 1985 to work within an already established Theatre School and to develop a one-year full-time technical course.

Qualifications: the successful candidate will be fully conversant with all technical aspects of Theatre and will have completed a recognised course of technical training. He or she will also be aware of contemporary theatre practice and convention. Teaching qualifications or experience would be an advantage.

Salary: £5,910-£10,512 per annum (under review). Application forms and further particulars available from The Director, Coventry Centre for the Performing Arts, Leazes Avenue, Coventry CV3 6BH, telephone (0203) 418668, to be returned by 21st June 1985.

This is a re-advertisement - previous applicants need not re-apply.

an equal opportunity employer

Editor

Alfred McAlpine PLC is looking for an experienced and lively journalist to join its Corporate Communications team, providing information for the Group's employees.

Prime responsibility will be the editing of the bi-monthly newspaper, which covers the Group's construction, minerals, housebuilding and property activities through more than 35 operating companies in the UK and overseas, and for seeing the publication through all stages of production. He or she will also be responsible for co-ordinating other forms of information to employees.

The job, which is based in London, offers a company car and a competitive salary.

Please send applications and C.V. to
T.N.C. Westman, Corporate Communications
Manager:

Alfred McAlpine PLC
De La Rue House
5 Burlington Gardens
London W1X 1LE

Alfred McAlpine

SELL NUMBER ONE

The latest figures from independent monitoring service MEAL show that The Guardian now carries more recruitment advertising than any other quality daily or Sunday paper. That means more than the Daily Telegraph and more than the Sunday Times, to name just two.

The Guardian is number one because of its continuing growth in circulation. Our extremely professional sales force, however, think they may have something to do with it. Although they will admit it helps to sell a product which works.

We're looking for the best face-to-face recruitment sales person around. Someone who realises that success doesn't come easily, even if you are number one. We will pay a competitive salary and there are five weeks' holiday. Applications with full c.v. to:

CAROLINE MARLAND,
Advertisement Director,
or call FIONA MORRIS,
Classified Sales Manager
on 01-278 2332.

THE GUARDIAN
119 FARRINGTON ROAD,
LONDON EC1R 3ER.

MGP PUBLICATIONS LIMITED

ARTWORKER +

Are you fast, accurate, adaptable, able to work on your own initiative as well as working in a team? Do you have several years' experience of having to cope with several projects at once?

We need an artworker with good design sense to join our team of designers and finishing artists, working on a range of educational publications.

There will also be opportunities for some design work for anybody showing the suitable ability.

Please write with c.v. to: Angela McCarthy (Studio), Personnel Manager, Mary Glasgow Publications Ltd., 140 Kensington Church St., London W8 4BN.

ZOMBA BOOKS

a division of the international Zomba Group of Companies, also active in the fields of Recording, Music Publishing, Video and Film Industries, is looking for an

EDITORIAL/PRODUCTION CONTROLLER

The successful applicant will be responsible for all aspects of editorial and production control from copy editing to proof correction and from scheduling to quality control.

He/she should be capable, confident and self-motivated, and prepared to work as part of a small team in developing and maintaining the publishing programme.

This is an interesting and varied position and will appeal to someone with at least 3 years' book publishing experience now looking to broaden their horizons.

An attractive salary is offered including guaranteed bonus and private medical insurance.

Apply in writing with c.v. to John Toller, Zomba Books, 165-167 Willesden High Road, London NW10 2SS.

NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION LTD JUNIOR EXECUTIVE

The Newspaper Publishers Association Ltd is seeking to recruit a Committee Secretary to undertake responsibility for the servicing of its Executive and Policy Committees.

The chosen person will be responsible to the Advertising Secretary for the fulfilment of these duties; for handling all matters relating to travel advertising on a day-to-day basis, and to acting as personal secretary to the Advertising Secretary.

The ideal candidate will have the ability and experience to deal with Committee work, should possess good secretarial skills and will be required to liaise at all levels. The ability to work on own initiative and at times under pressure is essential.

Salary negotiable.

Please write, enclosing C.V., to Mr J. E. LaPage, Director, Newspaper Publishers Association Ltd, 6 Boulevard Street, LONDON EC4A 3AY.

BELGRADE THEATRE COVENTRY.

Invites applications for two exciting new community development posts.

1. COMMUNITY AND FESTIVAL ORGANISER

to further develop the already existing initiative in community involvement including the Coventry Festival and the Belgrade Youth Theatre. Relevant experience in community, festival or youth theatre work essential.

Applications, including full c.v. should be sent to Robert Hamlin, Director, Belgrade Theatre, Belgrade Square, Coventry.

Further details on request - closing date 20 June 1985.

ADVERTISEMENT SALES MANAGER

Expanding sales and growing range of titles have created a new vacancy at Herald House from where 'Christian Woman', 'Christian Herald' and 'JAM' (teenage) dominate the interdenominational market. We need a live wire manager with good advertising sales background and evangelical Christian experience, to join a hard-working team in a pleasant sea-side town.

Send c.v. to: Colin Reeves, Herald House Ltd, 27 Chapel Road, Worthing, BN11 1EG. Tel: 0903 212171.

ASTON UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR

The Triangle media and performance centre on the Aston University campus in the centre of Birmingham comprises the Regional Film Theatre, Photography Gallery and Sound Recording Studio and has a continuing programme of activities in a 200-seat performance studio.

The Triangle also houses the Channel 4 franchised Birmingham Film and Video Workshop and the editorial offices of Ten-8 Magazine.

The job demands a person of flair, drive and imagination to develop the artistic and community work of a centre with potential for a role of regional and national significance.

Salary within the range £12,000 to £14,000 p.a.

Application form and further details available from Senior Personnel Officer, Aston University, The Triangle, Birmingham B4 7ET (telephone 021-359 3811, ext. 4568) quoting reference number 856/82.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF ROTHERHAM

OF ROTHERHAM IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS AND ARTS

DANCE ANIMATEUR

To work in the Rotherham and Sheffield Area, until 31st March, 1986, commencing as soon as possible on full or part-time (shared) basis. Salary based on 12,532 p.a. Training in dance, experience in performance and teaching/workshops essential.

Must be car owner/driver.

Closing date: 21st June, 1985.

For details apply to the Arts Office, The Brian O'Malley Central Library and Arts Centre, Wetherby Place, Rotherham S65 1JH, telephone 0709 382121, ext. 3288.

G. CRANE,
Director of Personnel Resources

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

c. £23,000

We are a progressive company in ECU recording a mature, unflappable supervisor to oversee our new word processing department. The work includes scheduling of regular publication output. Training in WORDSTAR will be given but sound WP experience is necessary.

If you are looking to move on to a position offering responsibility and opportunity please contact Shelly McAlister on:

353-9961
(No agencies).

COMBINED ARTS ANIMATEUR

The successful applicant will have a broad range of art skills and the ability to share these with young people. The animator will be based in Wiltshire, working throughout the year and at the County's Education Centre on Angles.

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Electronics Times covers the business news, politics and human interest side of the industry, not just the technology, so knowledge of, or enthusiasm for, high technology is not essential.

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Please call Mick McLean on 01-855 7777, Ext. 682 for further details or send your c.v. to him at Morgan-Grampian House, 30 Calderwood Street, Woolwich, London SE18 6QH.

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Further details may be obtained from the General Manager, Manchester Polytechnic Students Union, 99 Oxford Road, Manchester M1 7EL, to whom a full c.v. and addresses of two referees should be sent no later than Wednesday, 20th June, 1985, at 12 noon.

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Removal expenses and separation allowances can be paid.

Further details and application form available from the Principal, Barnet College, Wood Street, Barnet, Herts (a.s.e. booklet for reply).

Closing date for applications - Friday, 21st June, 1985.

Barnet College

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For Cargo Handling and Transportation Journal

C.S. Publications are looking for an experienced Journalist with a nose for news and the ability to write on cargo handling and transportation matters. Even if you have not had direct experience but are prepared to take a brief building course, please let us know about yourself. First and foremost, we need to increase our writing staff to maintain our 12 years' of producing quality journals with an international reputation.

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SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA

The SNO requires a General Administrator, who will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the orchestra and for all aspects of management.

Applicants should have experience of management and administration at a senior level.

The position is based in Glasgow, is pensionable and a salary is supplied. Details of salary will be provided at interview.

Applications, with full cv and the names of two referees, by Monday, 24th June, 1985, to: G. L. Murray, Esq, WS, Secretary, W. & J. Burgess, WS, 16 Hope Street, Edinburgh EH2 4DZ.

Northern Ballet Theatre

ADMINISTRATOR

to work closely with the Artistic Director in implementing the company's Artistic policy.

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Salary by negotiation.

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The Central Office of the University of London is looking for an Administrative Assistant to help organise undergraduate examinations and assist with committee work.

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Starting salary: £6,617, rising to a maximum of £7,882. Benefits include 4 weeks' annual holiday, plus extra days at Christmas and Easter. Also a pension scheme.

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Please write with full details to: Susan Tomlinson, Personnel Assistant, Mercury Communications Limited, Ninety Lang Acre, London WC2E 9NF.

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Write with c.v. to: Mary Collingborn, Personnel Manager, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

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Candidates must be 18 years of age or over and should possess GCE 'O' level passes or A, B or C grades in English Language and two other subjects. They must be able to type 30 words per minute and write shorthand at 100 words per minute.

Starting salary £5,622 per annum - £7,012 per annum. Proficiency allowances payable for higher technical skills.

Apply to: Secretaries 1 (Ref 2889), Great Russell Street, WC1B 3DG.

An equal opportunity employer. Closing date 24th June, 1985.

ADMINISTRATION SECRETARY

to join multi-national group in oil-related industry. Top secretarial skills needed and liking for variety. Languages useful. Age 23+, salary range to £9,500 + excellent benefits. C.V. details to:

GO 44 THE GUARDIAN

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Institute of Psychiatry RESEARCH SECRETARY

A secretary is required by a newly formed research group comprising five doctors who are investigating new treatments for depression and Parkinson's disease. The secretary should have good typing and shorthand skills and be capable of independent administrative work. The duties will include a variety of administrative tasks in support of the team as well as the preparation of documents and correspondence.

The starting salary for this post on GRA grade 3 salary (£5,284 to £5,695) plus London allowance (£1,200) is available on a grant for two years in the first instance.

For application form please send stamped addressed envelope to: The Secretary, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, Denmark Hill, London SE5 8AF.

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Mutineers who could sink Thatcherism

COMMENTARY Ian Aitken



POLITICAL watersheds are notoriously difficult things to spot without the benefit of hindsight. History has all too often demonstrated that governments which looked at the time to be on the up-and-up had actually been going downhill for months or even years beforehand, or vice versa.

But I have a strong suspicion that future historians will identify last week as an essential watershed in the turbulent life story of Thatcherism. It really does look as if the tide has at last turned on the Tories, if not yet on the individual who gave it its name.

Two events which took place in the course of last week provide the evidence of this claim. The first was Mr Norman Fowler's announcement of his long-heralded "review" of the welfare state. The second, perhaps even more significantly, was the Cabinet's decision to throw out Mr Gow's plan for the deregulation of new housing tenancies.

At first sight, neither may seem sufficiently glamorous subjects to justify grandiose claims about historic watersheds and the like. Mr Fowler's huge Green Paper was widely greeted as an overblown mouse in comparison with the advance publicity. And housing policy has rarely caught the public imagination until it has been translated into bricks and mortar — or, more often,

the lack of them.

But reform of the welfare state is central to the whole ethos of Thatcherism. Not only was the Fowler project intended to redistribute scarce resources more "efficiently," it was also intended to unscramble the alleged disincentives to work embodied in Beveridge Mark One.

In other words, its essential aim was to get the unemployed on to their bikes. If Mr Fowler fails to achieve that objective, a whole plank in the Thatcherite platform falls out.

But the proposal to deregulate new housing tenancies is no less central. Not only would it greatly strengthen the private sector in the building industry at the expense of the public sector — a major plank for a Government dedicated to privatising everything in sight. It would also greatly liberalise the labour market.

Or, in plain English, it would let the laws of supply and demand loose on the housing market and thus encourage private speculative builders to put up houses for rent in areas where there are jobs available. This new freedom would in turn help workers to move from the declining North to the (comparatively) booming South. There would be houses for them to rent.

So it would be hard to imagine two more crucial measures in the Government's bid to restore a free market economy — itself the keystone in the Thatcherite bridge to national prosperity. For, of all the markets which the Thatcherites want to liberate, none is more fundamental to their argument than the labour market.

That is why the events of last week represent a turning point in the progress of Thatcherism. If Mr Fowler's Green Paper is a fudge, as most genuine Thatcherites would say, then it represents a retreat from the true gospel. But if Mr Gow's plan has been abandoned (and it has) then it represents more than a retreat. To the converted, it is a betrayal.

I do not propose to go deeply into the pros and cons of the Fowler review, which have been discussed to the point of tedium in the week-end press. But it remains possible that the fudges and judges, which were so glaringly obvious to almost everyone but Labour's Mr Michael Meacher in the Commons last week, will be retracted later.

For, as Mr Neil Kinnock spotted last Thursday, the absence of any figures for

has lost its nerve over the essential tenets of Thatcherism. On this issue, at least, there was no attempt at fudging or muddling; the colleagues simply said no.

This was all the more remarkable because the firm negative, though addressed in the first instance to Mr Gow and his departmental boss, Mr Patrick Jenkin, was really directed at the Prime Minister herself, along with her Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, and her Think Tank guru, Mr Christopher Monckton. It was the College of Cardinals saying no to the Pope and the Curia.

No doubt there were some Cabinet ministers who joined the rebellion on pure grounds of principle. The main body of the mutineers, however, had no such noble motives. They advocated retreat because they were frightened to fight the next election on Mr Gow's radical proposals. In other words, cowardice.

But cowardice is a powerful motive in human affairs — perhaps the most powerful. And there were strong reasons why the mutineers should be afraid, and all of them were rehearsed at last Thursday's Cabinet meeting. Above all, ministers had a nightmarish vision of soaring rents — perhaps (horrors of horrors) even televised evictions — taking place on the eve of a general election. But the rebels, who included not only Messrs Walker and Heseltine but also less predictable figures like Biffen and Gummer, were also able to argue that most of the economic advantages claimed for the Gow proposal to remove rent control and end protected tenancy were wholly problematical. Far from saving large sums, they would initially cost the taxpayer money in higher housing benefits. And they might not even produce the promised stimulus to private builders.

For the danger was that the Labour Party (and perhaps also the Alliance parties) would respond to the Gow plan with a firm promise to repeal the whole lot. That, the rebels argued, would almost certainly deter private landlords and speculative builders from putting up the houses in the first place. They might, after all, find their expensive new houses right back under rent control.

In other words, the deregulation proposals amounted to that most dangerous of all political acts — a leap in the dark. And a leap, moreover, which was timed to take place in the immediate run-up to a general election. Nothing could be better calculated to produce a revolt.

What is almost incredible about this sorry tale is that it took a Cabinet rebellion to put a stop to what should, on the most elementary po-

litical considerations, have been a non-starter. The explanation, however, lies in the fact that, in spite of all the recent talk, the Thatcher style of government has still not changed.

For the reality is that Mr Gow's draft bill was never discussed in principle in Cabinet at all. Last Thursday's discussion took place solely on its proposed inclusion in the legislative programme for the next Parliamentary session. Up to that stage it had never got outside the closed circuit of Cabinet committees.

Thus the advice reaching Mrs Thatcher on the proposal was largely the advice of zealots, dogmatists, ideologues and enthusiasts. Those shabby pragmatists who might have said no on simple practical grounds were scarcely heard at all. Their piping voices were denounced as the whingeing of wets.

The whole affair is bad luck on poor Mr Jenkin, who is now stuck with yet another pratfall. But to do him justice, he must be backed a much less ambitious plan to confine the deregulation to brand new houses, rather than extend it to all new tenancies regardless of the age of the house. He got the idea as far as a Cabinet committee, only to be told brusquely that it wasn't radical enough.

So they sent him away to do it again. And he did, poor chap.

ERIC SILVER in Delhi on the rookie MP accused of putting his film career before politics India's star under a cloud

SIX MONTHS after he was swept into parliament on the Rajiv Bachchan, the swashbuckling superstar of Hindi movies, is in trouble with his Allahabad constituents in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh.

His critics accuse him of neglecting the voters, missing debates and putting his film career before politics. Mr Bachchan has still to make his maiden speech. He has been too busy shooting his latest blockbuster in a Madras studio and moving house from Bombay to Delhi.

Mr Bachchan, a childhood friend of the prime minister, added insult to injury in a newspaper interview, describing his precipitate entry into the December election campaign less than tactfully, "I was virtually airlifted from Bangalore when I was shooting," he said, "and dumped into the cesspool of politics."

One of Mr Bachchan's predecessors as Congress MP for Allahabad, Mr Sant Bux Singh, threw it back in his face. "If politics is a cesspool for Mr Bachchan," he retorted, "my request to him is to quit, the cesspool will be less stagnant."

Mr Singh, whose younger brother is finance minister in Mr Gandhi's government, added: "While the people of Allahabad are thirsting for water and electricity, Mr Bachchan demands more pa-

BECAUSE New York is the largest crime centre, the city's police force of 26,000 men and women sets the standard for law enforcement for the whole country. Following a series of recent scandals, the New York police face three separate Federal, state and local investigations to try to find why their standard has slipped — and how far.

W. J. WEATHERBY reports on a series of scandals that have revealed a creeping madness in the precincts

The Philadelphia police may think they have problems over their recent bombing raid, but Philly hasn't the national importance of the Big Apple and a great deal more is at stake in New York than the correct way to handle a small armed group at bay. In the early eighties when fear of rising crime was at its height, the New York police were given a free hand, but the public mood has become much more critical since then, and the police are now being accused of abusing the power they were given.

Complaints to the police review board have greatly increased over the last year, and there have been a number of disturbing incidents in which police officers seemed to be acting as if they were above the law. Everything came to a head in a sensational scandal that surfaced at the 106th Precinct in Ozone Park, Queens, where narcotics investigators were allegedly torturing suspects with electric stun guns during interrogations.

Five men have been indicted, twenty more have been transferred to other precincts, and several early retirements have been announced. But Queens District Attorney John Santucci found his investigation was hampered by the "blue wall" of silence among the police, as hard to break as the Mafia's code of "omertà." Like the medical profession with its covering doctors, the police prefer to deal with their mistakes in private. Santucci therefore has welcomed Brooklyn US Attorney Raymond Dearie's decision to hold an independent federal investigation because federal immunity laws are more flexible and may persuade more policemen to testify.

The big question is how widespread such brutal methods have become. Governor Cuomo has announced he will appoint a special commission with sweeping investigative and subpoena powers to study the use of force by police departments in the whole state, but especially New York City, where the recent scandals, he said, have provided "dramatic evidence of an insistent and pervasive one." The governor added that "allegations of police brutality have occurred throughout the state and require a serious and comprehensive investigation."

New York City's Mayor Koch, up for re-election this year, has had his police commissioner, Benjamin Ward, hold a series of well-publicised meetings with police commanders stressing that the lower ranks' behaviour is their responsibility.

As with any situation involving American politicians

The blue wall protecting the New York City blues

Two of New York's finest deal with a family problem in Harlem — picture by Denis Thorpe

and the police who are dependent on each other, it is difficult to distinguish between the public relations red herrings and the genuine attempts to find out what has gone wrong and the extent of the damage. A certain amount of corruption in big city police forces seems inevitable, and the police and political leaders are well aware of it. In New York, for example, it is commonplace for police officers to get free or discounted meals in restaurants, delicatessens, and snack-bars, even though it is a misdemeanor punishable by a year in jail and \$1,000 fine. But since the torture scandal broke, reports of these free meals in a local New York paper have been greeted with shocked surprise, reminders of the penalties and orders to desist at once.

But the worrying aspect of this current scandal doesn't concern such minor infractions or even the more serious widespread bribes from the drug and prostitution / pornography trade, which are equally well known but much harder to stamp out. Such corruption is caused by simple police greed. What the recent scandal and other cases of police violence involve is a much more complicated aspect of police work — the mental effect. The alleged torture cases reveal sadistic and racist behaviour needing immediate psychiatric treatment. If the evidence is correct, then many of the men

in uniform and in plain clothes were as mentally disturbed and as dangerous as the worst of the criminals they dealt with.

Much the same pattern of mental disturbance was to be found in many of the other recent cases involving police breaking the law. Men have been accused of unjustified beatings or shootings that led to the death of people they were arresting. Another man has been charged with running over and killing a pedestrian, and then driving off in his patrol car with two other officers and failing to report the incident.

Such examples of bizarre, unbalanced behaviour suggest the strain of policing New York with its overcrowded millions of many

nationalities and races and its history of violence. The city obviously becomes too much for many police officers and drives them to the edge of a breakdown long before their superiors and fellow officers recognise it or at least are willing to insist they go for treatment. Then when the public suffers, there is inevitably an attempt to cover up the cause.

A police sergeant recently charged with shooting a woman in the back following an argument over a traffic accident, plans to plead temporary insanity. He will apparently call a forensic psychiatrist who will claim that the sergeant suffers from a brain disorder and was not responsible for his actions. It

will be the first time a police officer has pleaded temporary insanity since 1977, but it may become a common defence in the police cases that are pending long before their superiors and fellow officers recognise it or at least are willing to insist they go for treatment. Then when the public suffers, there is inevitably an attempt to cover up the cause.

About half of the 26,000 policemen and women have less than five years' experience and are fairly unsophisticated citizens, and yet many of them are assigned to high crime precincts where even experienced older officers live in a state of continual fear. Not only does this lead to a growing strain on the young officers, but it also leads to hasty judgments and arrests, especially when crowds, who are often hostile to the police are involved. When someone

has been wrongly arrested, there is often great reluctance to admit it in case the person tries to sue, a situation similar to the state of mystery doctors like to function in as a cover-up for their errors and as protection against possible legal action. Fear that drives the police into over-acting in this way makes them many unnecessary enemies, which merely increases their fear and the possibility of over-strain and breakdowns.

Commissioner Ward at the height of the brutal scandal presided over a memorial service for two of his men killed on duty to underline how dangerous it can be to serve as a New York police officer. But the high pay, overpaid overtime, benefits, early retirement and the prestige and power of the uniform seem to be adequate compensations to most New Yorkers, few of whom live as well as the police who invariably have their own houses in the safer suburbs far from the streets they police.

What seems to be at fault is the police system for spotting officers heading for a breakdown. A small early warning unit of a dozen members works through the personnel bureau checking complaints and performance reports for signs of emotional problems, but this seems very inadequate for a force of 26,000. The recent investigations have shown that loyalty to each other makes it unlikely there can be an efficient system of surveillance in each local precinct. Excessive drinking and drug taking, which are often symptoms or causes of breakdowns, are generally not reported. All new recruits undergo a series of psychological examinations, but this is before they are exposed to the pressures of policing New York City.

There are no follow-up tests except for those selected for special assignments, such as undercover work or special emergency duties. Commissioner Ward said new, regular methods of psychological screening were being planned, especially for any man to be promoted. Much tighter supervision is obviously needed and a realistic code that is practised rather than just preached in which violence is not acceptable, and racism and other causes of brutal behaviour are not condoned.

If a casual observer in New York can often spot the dangerous tension in police faces, the kind of tight mouth and jaw, the anxious eyes, the lowered brow, the nervous arrogance — then the officers in charge should be able to recognise the symptoms long before they can cause trouble. The present scandal shows that New Yorkers need protection from some of their police as well as their criminals. And Londoners should take note, for the stresses are in all big cities, and I have seen those tension signs in police faces in London, too.

'Never has it happened before that the people of Allahabad have had to advertise in the lost and missing columns to trace their MP'

tiende of them as he is busy fixing a bungalow in Delhi. Never has it happened before that the people of Allahabad have had to advertise in the lost and missing columns of newspapers to trace their MP."

Mr Bachchan, who has made more than 70 films and is reputed to earn one million rupees (about \$25,000) a time, insists that he is honouring old contracts. Once these are completed, he will become a full-time politician.

"Whatever movies I'm doing now are pending commitments," he told the Times of India. "I'll take one four to six months to finish them. There's just no question of Amitabh Bachchan returning to films full-time..."

"A stage comes when you wonder whether the 700,000 people of Allahabad are more important than the 700 million cinegoers who have their demands too. Weighing the two, I know my responsibility is towards Allahabad and Allahabad alone."

There is no reason to doubt the freshman MP's sincerity, not least because he is still suffering from an incurable, though containable, disease — myasthenia gravis — which threatened last year to end his acting career.

The trouble is that the highly competitive commercial film industry has found no alternative. "He has projected a figure full of virility and responsibility and above all of resourcefulness," wrote Khalid Mohamed, an Indian critic. "He is the kind of tight mouth and jaw, the anxious eyes, the lowered brow, the nervous arrogance — then the officers in charge should be able to recognise the symptoms long before they can cause trouble. The present scandal shows that New Yorkers need protection from some of their police as well as their criminals. And Londoners should take note, for the stresses are in all big cities, and I have seen those tension signs in police faces in London, too."

But Mr Bachchan was not the biggest name on the Hindi screen without learning a trick or two. This weekend he hit back in the way he — or his agent — knows best: through his fan club.

The club executive announced in Delhi that it would mount a vigil outside the home of the finance minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, whom it suspected of being the grey eminence behind his brother's campaign. The minister, whose reforming budget and "clean" image have made him one of the first successes of the new Rajiv team, denies having anything to do with it. The fans are not impressed. They accused him of "indirectly supporting the maligning campaign against 'Bachchan', and urged Mr Gandhi to take "strong disciplinary action against such politically motivated, frustrated self-seekers and opportunists who are afraid of Bachchan's growing popularity in Allahabad." That's cesspool business.

The secret States

WHILE a consensus is developing in Britain that government is too secretive and that the Official Secrets Act should be repealed, the Central Intelligence Agency and the United States Justice Department are attempting to restrict the release of information on the other side of the Atlantic. The liberal press in America is wondering aloud if it is going to get an Official Secrets Act of its own.

Both the Reagan and Thatcher administrations have tried to curb leaks. Neither has succeeded. Proposals to change the law in both countries have reached deadlock. Meanwhile, on any given day, national newspapers are full of classified information selectively disclosed.

The similarities end there. In Britain, excessive secrecy is debated on the sidelines. Attempts to control the release of official information in the US have foundered on the aggressive assertion of the first amendment — the right to free speech — not just by journalists and civil libertarians, but academics, Congressmen, lobbyists and officials — past and present — who participate in what amounts to a free market system of policy debate.

A recent CIA attempt to make the disclosure of classified information a criminal offence for civil servants was struck down within days of being leaked to the press. The draft Bill, issued under the signature of the CIA director, Mr William Casey, would have prosecuted an official who provided "stolen material" to a journalist unless it could be proved that the material was not obtained through his department, that it had already been published or was not properly classified.

Ironically, the Bill itself, leaked to the New York Times, would probably be in a category warranting prosecution.

At present, US law specifically classifies the leaking of material relating to atomic secrets, cryptography and the names of secret agents as criminal. But the Justice Department has long argued that the existing espionage laws cover domestic disclosure to foreign spies.

This interpretation is widely disputed but has, so far, been upheld in the current case of Samuel Loring Morrison, a naval intelligence officer who sent a satellite photo of a Soviet aircraft carrier under construction to the British publication, Jane's Defence Weekly.

The Justice Department was among those who opposed the CIA initiative, fearing that it would interfere with its handling of the Morrison case and its still-disputed proposition that unlawful disclosure to the Press as well as to foreign spies has been illegal since put on the statute book in 1917.

The Morrison case is the most ambitious of its kind since the Pentagon Papers prosecution failed during the Vietnam war. The American Civil Liberties Union, which is helping Morrison fight his case, believes that a conviction would amount to an ad hoc Official Secrets Act in the US.

It is privately confident of victory and sees the CIA draft Bill as an admission that new legislation would be needed. A union official conceded recently that a narrow extension of criminal penalties to cover satellite disclosures might get through Congress, but not a blanket measure.

In 1983, when the Thatcher administration agreed that the polygraph, or lie detector, should be introduced in British intelligence agencies including GCHQ, an attempt by the Reagan ad-

ministration to extend the use of the machine to other federal officials and obtain vetting rights over memoirs and other writings was howled down by Congress.

Since then the memoirs of Mr Alexander Haig, former Secretary of State and an experienced Washington warrior, have underlined another irony. Haig complained that the Reagan administration was the leakiest he could recall, not because of disaffection among career civil servants — often claimed to be cause of leaks in Britain — but because the Reaganites' style was to fight their ideological battles through the media.

Some senior Whitehall officials argue that there would be fewer leaks here if

Obscenity that fuelled the Brussels brutality

Mary Whitehouse

DAVID Owen was right when he said that there was no easy, superficial answer to the terrible violence which now so dreadfully disfigures the football scene. But I would go further and say that only if, collectively and individually, we look to our own responsibility for the violence in Brussels is any hope of creating the new climate which is essential not only for the future of football but for all our futures.

To be truthful I weep for our children. The soft-centred, self-interested liberal-humanist sentiment which has beguiled our universities, schools and indeed churches for the last three decades has demanded a terrible price in human suffering and consequent suffering. Surely the fearful

violence and anguish of that dreadful night had at least some of its roots in the violence orientated society in which the young perpetrators of it all have grown up.

Every generation has had its hoodlums and show-offs but few have been, on the one hand, so denied the moral guidance which is their birthright and, on the other, so exposed to the advocacy of the free-at-all-costs lobby. And what cost? What happened in Brussels cannot be seen in isolation, neither can those who created that terrible tragedy be left isolated in the dock. We should all be there. Indeed we are whether we accept it or not.

Shocked we certainly are by what happened but surprised we should not be. We have fed ourselves on a diet of gross violence and obscenity and it is the immature who break and the innocent who pay the price. Of course it is true that many people never see let alone buy the most extreme material.

But that is only available because the pornography has known how to exploit a weak law and that involves us all.

We have, collectively, fallen for the idea that somehow pornography and violence are two different issues. They are not. Those who wallow in the gross indecency (at best) of the so-called "grit" magazines are opening the door, indeed legitimising, the obscenity of violence, for the two are inseparable. And those inside and outside Parliament who are unwilling for whatever reason, to tackle the inadequacy of the present obscenity law are culpably faint hearted if not self-indulgent.

The notion that such material is "adult" turns that concept on its head and provides a flattering excuse for inaction. If it is "adult" seductively to whip — to say the very least — then why should we be surprised that undisciplined young people get the same kind of satisfaction from their own type

of violence? And the very free availability of such pornography implies its own adult sanction.

And how can we ensure that such material does not fall into the hands of children, picked up as it is by little lads in the "Gents" and passed on from child to child on the way home from school for "a giggle"? Never may well have laughed while he fiddled and Rome burnt; but we smirk while humanity is corrupted.

A paperback containing every conceivable — and in conceivable — perversion: eased on the way by a goodly dusting of cocaine; is now freely available on the bookshelves. It is published by a subsidiary of a highly respected firm. The Metropolitan Police very recently asked the Director of Public Prosecutions for permission to prosecute but were told by him that "there is not a reasonable prospect of securing a prosecution under Section 2 of the Obscene Publications Act" and advised

that "no further action be taken in the matter." God help us.

If our minds have become so desensitised, if our sense of what is good and true has become so blunted and distorted that such material can sit snugly amongst the paper wad displays of our most respectable shops then where are we? In the name of sanity, if nothing else, the owner the obscenity law is amended the better.

The recent TV Eye programme on child abuse referred to the one year old boy who had been sexually abused and the two year old who had contracted gonorrhoea, not to mention the one in 10 children in a certain area of Leeds caught up in a prostitution racket — at £1 a piece — shame us almost beyond endurance. All part and parcel of the licentiousness which characterises Britain in the eighties.

And then there's television. In spite of all the Presidential and prestigious Committee reports which

have for more than a decade linked televised and social violence the indulgence goes on. Take last Saturday night. Of all films, ITV with blind contempt for public sensitivity, chose to re-broadcast the highly contentious "Marathon Man".

In close up, we were treated — well, that was apparently the idea — to a burning to death, a garrotting, a deliberate near drowning in a bath, a suicide, strangling, torture in the mouth of a helpless man and murder after murder. And we're shocked and surprised by what happened in Brussels. Who denies for a generation weaned on such "entertainment" the difference between reality and fantasy and who can be assured that such a line will be drawn or even understood?

To try to understand is not to condone the mindless brutality of what happened in Brussels. It is we who have glorified and demanded violence to slip gently with our nightcap. Of course the

culprits in those terrible events must be punished. But do not let us allow their punishment to save our consciences. No requiems should give us peace.

The answer lies deep in us all and demands a whole reorientation of our values. That will take perhaps generations. But one practical contribution could be made at once by the IBA and the Governors of the BBC. Let them govern, not sit comfortably back with the occasional "cut out" after the event.

As individuals I am sure they have no right to be where they are unless they can face up to the reality of the world they are helping to create. The IBA's latest declaration on the subject of Violence (Dimensions of Television Violence, Barrie Gunter) is that it is, like beauty, in the eye of the beholder. God help us indeed!

Mary Whitehouse is President of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association.

FACE TO FAITH

Alistair Kee

WHEN I taught theology in the University of Rhodesia (as it then was) a student came to me one day privately saying that she had a problem. Since she was an attractive young woman with a lively personality, I was much relieved as she surprised when she said she was troubled by the problem of evil.

I do not think this intellectual puzzle would ever have seemed to her an important problem were it not for the fact that she was by training entering a western philosophical tradition. The problem was being imposed on her and underlined the extent to which western theology has been determined by the rationalism of the Enlightenment.

Following Kant it was possible to defend the moral order of the world and show how belief in God and indeed our common experience are compatible with that underlying structure. Following Hegel it was impossible to insist that the only meaning of life is to be found in the conflict and turmoil of history things make sense.

Western theology has become a discipline in its own right, independent of the experience of religious communities and consequently its agenda does not arise from the lives of religious people. To the contrary, it imposes its Enlightenment assumptions upon people, assumptions about the moral order and the inherent meaning of life.

These assumptions today are being challenged by Third World theologians. They do theology on a quite different basis. It may be too late for any former African student, but at least her successors will not have to become Europeans in order to study theology. Just as important, Europeans are being challenged by the new theology reaching us from Latin America and Asia.

The European tradition might be called a theology of reconciliation. Theologians undertook to explain why what is makes sense, more than that to show that what is ought to be. Theology interprets the world in such a way that it appears both rational and moral. But this approach reflects the highly abstracted perspective of the great philosophers and is open to criticism.

The most succinct criticism was that offered by Karl Marx in his 11th Thesis on Feuerbach: "The philosophers have only interpreted the world in various ways, the point is to change it." Those who live in the Third World today are not tempted to assume that history is a rational process. They do not seek meaning in history, but relief from it. They do not wish it to be interpreted as a process, but radically changed. Nor do they experience life as being based on an observable moral order. The order of the day is profoundly immoral.

The problem of evil in the Third World is not a problem of interpretation, to show how the existence of evil is compatible with a loving God. The problem is how to adapt Marx's thesis to the world in various ways, the point is to change it.

Although there are very important practical consequences which flow from this critique it represents also a fundamental change in theology. Theology in the Third World is no longer a first order discipline, its own agenda of issues which is then imposed on the defenceless laity. On the contrary, Third World theology is a second order discipline, reflecting on the daily experiences of people who suffer the consequences of irrationality and evil. The agenda of such theology is, therefore, very different from the European experience.

European theology has now come to terms with the challenge to its method, but it did, what practical consequences would follow? One experience which dominates the lives of hundreds of thousands of young people is that they have no prospect of employment. If the economy ever picks up, either as a result of government policies, or in spite of them, this generation of young people may in fact have already missed their chance.

This is a tragic human situation, but how do theologians view it? For the most part not viewed at all, preferring to deal with the problem of evil. But this experience is the problem of evil for a whole generation. If European theologians are to learn from their counterparts in the Third World, then they will not give an interpretation of social evil, they will work to end it.

Alistair Kee is head of the Department of Religious Studies, University of Glasgow.

THE simmering disputes in the coalfields arouse remarkably little controversy. Local strikes, endemic in the more rebellious areas (every pit in the Doncaster district has experienced one in the past two months) are unreported in the national press. The Coal Board pursues its accelerated programme of pit closures — and its policy of showdown — with barely a whiff of public protest, though it has stirred Nacods, the pit deputies union, to their first industrial action in 100 years, and has aroused the open disaffection of the BACM, the association of colliery managers.

Labour's Front Bench, as so often during the history of the strike, seems wary of generalising the issues, or capitalising on divisions within the NCB, for fear of identifying itself too closely with the defence of the miners. There are no demands for a Commission of Inquiry into the project originally canvassed by the Welsh Churchmen and the Wales Congress for the support of the mining communities, and given renewed credibility (one might have thought) by the evident disarray of the NCB and the government.

There are no calls for the resignation of Mr MacGregor, though to judge by a trail of leaks (of Financial Times, May 28 1985) he is once again embroiled both with the minister and his own leading officers. There are no warnings about what a future Labour Government might do to the pocket Napoleons who have appeared on the coalfields, though Mr Kinnock, in his television interview last weekend, was fierce about the fate in store for uncooperative Whitehall civil servants.

Mr Hattersley, who has been noticeably warmer to the miners' cause than his leader — and who issued a brave vindication in the immediate aftermath — nevertheless refrained from invoking his example, when launching Labour's Jobs and Industry campaign — a campaign in which miners and their families might have been expected to have earned a privileged place. So far as Labour's public rhetoric is concerned, the miners' strike might never have taken place.

The miners themselves are in no condition to exploit a new turn of events, even though the tide is turning in their favour. In the 12 months of the strike, they gave their all. Perhaps it is the exhaustion of all passion spent; or perhaps it is resignation in the face of the inevitable.

Mr Scargill is stumping the coalfields, preparing for a new trial of strength, but there is no reason to suppose that his members — though

quick to respond to local aggression — would countenance it, and the experience of the past year can hardly encourage them to believe that outside support would materialise if they took renewed action to defend the industry as a whole.

The miners' strike, though rousing, while it lasted, passionate support, and freely dubbed as "historic" is proving singularly difficult to assimilate except in a negative sense — to the politics of the Left. Labour's failure to campaign for the coalfields is perhaps indicative of a wider unease, and of unresolved tensions and ambiguities at the heart of support for the miners' cause — not least, it may be, among miners themselves.

The conduct of the strike involved misrecognition on all sides. The miners, engaged in a desperate struggle for survival, never-the-less adopted a rhetoric of "victory," and in the euphoria of the public assembly seem to have believed that it could be achieved by act of collective will. The forces ranged against it, the animating spirit of the strike, one quite alien to the language of Labour, and unacknowledged by contemporary trade unionism, was deeply conservative — the claim to jobs as a family patrimony, to the home as a territorial right, the defence of the known against the unknown, the local and familiar

against the remote and gigantesque, whether in the shape of the big city, to which the unemployed young would drift, or Mr MacGregor's "super-pits" which would swallow them up.

The national support for the miners owed more to the spirit of Good Works — and in the case of some trade unions "conscience money" — than to solidarity, and it is perhaps indicative of this that the local organisation of aid took the form of miners' support groups rather than, as in 1926 — an analogy fruitlessly invoked — Councils of Action. With the important exception of the railwaymen and the printers it did not involve stoppages of work — not even workplace demonstrations. The support was heartfelt

Neil Kinnock at Easington in February 1984 — Labour's leadership now seems wary of identifying with the miners. Picture by Denis Thorpe

Pitfalls Labour dug for itself

RAPHAEL SAMUEL

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and generous, but it was conditional not only on the miners' strength but also on their weakness, as both real and symbolic victims of state ordinance and impersonal economic forces.

It is a measure of the miners' achievement, and of their steadfastness and determination that, against all the odds, and in face of unexampled vilification they were able, in the end, to gain a hearing for their case and that by the end of the strike the defence of "uneconomic" pits — a seemingly "impossible" demand — had come to appear, to that half of the population which recognised the justice of the miners' cause, a sober common sense, a defence of elementary security.

The miners' strike, almost in spite of itself, offered some of the elements of a

new Labour politics, one which linked the protection of living conditions with the defence of local rights, the assertion of women's power with the maintenance of family integrity, the preservation of jobs with the re-unification of work and home.

If it looked backwards to the "traditional" industrial village, it also by its opposition to gigantism and streamlining, looked forward to the decentralisation of work in the post-commuter age. It was a "special case" which yet provided a symbolic focus for the fight-back against unemployment and regional impoverishment.

Like the defence of the GLC it was one of those rare public issues in which Labour found itself linked to a genuinely popular cause, albeit one which, until the very end of the strike, com-

manded only a minority support in the country. Equally rare, it managed to consolidate, or at any rate speak directly to a majority of Labour's electoral support.

Uniquely, it contrived to unite Party opinion of all stripes. It enabled the extra-parliamentary Left, a mainstay of the local support groups, to transcend their sectional interests in the pursuit of a cause which, momentarily at least, could be recognised as larger and more dignified than their own. For a Party living on a depleted moral capital, and an ever-receding past, it also offered a living example of collectivity and mutual aid.

The Party leadership, having decided at the outset that the strike was a watershed, remained singularly unresponsive to the changes in public mood, and seems never to have considered attempting to lead it. At Westminster the Front Bench preferred to concentrate its firepower on matters as the Pitting affair rather than risk too close an identification with a cause which from start to finish remained dangerously out of control. They seem to have been rewarded in their circumspection by Labour's electoral recovery.

Yet the calculation may turn out to be a mistaken one, even in narrowly electoral terms. It will not pre-

London's pride that must survive

Tomorrow, senior officers of the Greater London Enterprise Board and of the GLC go to the Department of the Environment to put the argument for continued funding of the board.

JOHN PALMER makes the case for the board.

DURING the past three bleak years of monetarism, slump and mass unemployment, the existence of the Greater London Enterprise Board and a handful of similar organisations has been a striking challenge to the balafré proposition that "There is No Alternative."

Yet just as the public demand for action on jobs is becoming a potent force in British politics, the Conservative Government is taking action which might destroy the GLC and much of what it has achieved in job creation and industrial restructuring in London.

Indifferent to demands from across the community in London, the Department of the Environment is refusing to release all but a small part of the financing for the GLC already allocated by its parent body the GLC.

As a result of the £20m GLC budget for this year pending a new arrangement under which the London boroughs would take control of the GLC's assets, the GLC has to be accountable through the boroughs to the London ratepayers but Conservative boroughs in particular are demanding more time to study what is involved in this delay is being used by Mr Jenkins to justify starving the GLC of vitally needed funds.

A continued refusal to allow the GLC the financial means it needs directly threatens over 1,000 jobs in projects which the GLC will not be able to proceed with for lack of funds. It could all too easily threaten jobs in existing GLC firms if commercial and confidence is directly shaken by spiteful Government action.

Ministers have not made any criticism of the GLC's record. In just two years the board has invested some millions of pounds of ratepayers' money provided by the GLC in more than 300 enterprises, creating and preserving some 3,500 jobs as well as laying the basis for many more jobs in future through a remarkable strategy of technological innovation.

The financial press (hardly noted for its socialist sympathies) has commented favourably on the professionalism of the GLC's

investment strategy and the modest failure rate of its investments (less than 10 per cent to date). Many of the jobs which the GLC has created have been in firms which were threatened with bankruptcy or being closed down by larger combines. But many more are "new" jobs, often in sectors applying advanced technology.

As a recent study by the distinguished firm of accountants Thornton Baker confirmed, each job saved or created by the GLC has cost around £4,000, on an extremely conservative valuation basis of the investments. This is some two thirds of the direct costs of keeping someone on the dole for a year, a figure which ignores the indirect economic and social costs of mass unemployment.

The return on the GLC's investments are commercial, strategic, and social. The board uses its GLC grant money to invest long-term through equity and loan and is willing to work with its enterprises to tackle the many problems generated by decades of decline and under-investment.

Quite apart from the financial return, the community also receives a "social dividend." This includes measures to encourage greater industrial democracy in the GLC enterprises, specific steps to implement equal opportunities for women,

ethnic minorities and the disabled and help for new forms of social ownership at work, notably worker co-operatives.

The social dividends and the achievement of strategic changes within key sectors of the London economy take time. But remarkable gains have already been made. In many GLC firms workers already take a direct part in key decisions and some of the barriers denying blacks and women access to training or skilled jobs have begun to be tackled.

Through the establishment of five technology networks the board has brought the academic strengths of London's colleges, universities, and hospitals in direct contact with areas of unmet social need, and through the development of a "bank" of proven new products and services generated new employment enterprises.

No one at the board pretends that it can solve the crisis of joblessness and de-industrialisation in London singlehandedly. That requires sweeping national (and eventually international) economic changes. The GLC has shown what can be achieved if real resources are made available in future to such regional, as well as national economic development agencies.

After two years the GLC cannot be expected to be

self-financing and, given the enormous areas of unemployment, need for investment in new jobs, nor should it be. It has an excellent chance of continuing with its work if the Government can be persuaded to fully release the money already allocated by the GLC.

In the disastrous event of the GLC's abolition, the GLC will want to be accountable for its assets and investments as the London ratepayers through the boroughs. The Government says it will release no more money until an "acceptable" arrangement is reached with the boroughs who are delaying progress in negotiating a new arrangement. In the meantime the GLC is being starved of vital funding.

The serious threat to the GLC has already triggered protest to Mr Jenkins and even some London Tory MPs have indicated that they would not want the odium of destroying the one agency which has brought jobs and hope to the people of their constituencies in the past two years. Only the most purblind "Tina" zealots will want to see the extinguishing of a model of public sector economic intervention which could be the precursor of a different, more hopeful, economic future.

John Palmer is Director of Information for the Greater London Enterprise Board.

THIS WEEK IN POLITICS

House of Commons

Monday: Debate on the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Bill.

Remaining stages of the Food and Environment Protection Bill.

Tuesday: Debate on the need for urgent new measures to deal with famine and remedy the debt crisis in developing countries.

Debate on government responsibility for the desperate plight of young people.

Remaining stages of the Enduring Powers of Attorney Bill.

Wednesday and Thursday: Debate on a motion to approve the Statement on the Defence Estimates 1985 Command No 9403.

Friday: Debate on the government's policy for science.

House of Lords

Today: Local Government Bill, Report.

Hill Farming Bill, second reading.

Tuesday: Transport Bill, Second Reading.

Wednesday: Interception of Communications Bill, Committee.

Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill, Committee.

Thursday: Local Government Bill, Report.

Representation of the People Bill, Third Reading.

Friday: Surrogacy Arrangements Bill, Second Reading. Brief debate on Immigration Policy.

Select Committees

Today: Race relations and Immigration sub-committee. Witnesses: Mr. David Stephen; United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service.

Tuesday: Treasury and Civil Service sub-committee. International monetary arrangements. Witnesses: Bank of England officials.

Public Accounts Committee—medical manpower and NHS summarised accounts. Witnesses: Peter Levene, chief of Defence Procurement.

Wednesday: Scottish Affairs—fisheries protection. Witnesses: Scottish Office officials.

Trade and Industry—UK Tourism. Witnesses: Peter Rees MP; Norman Lamont MP; Lord Gray of Contin; John Stradling Thomas MP and Dr Rhodes Boyson MP.

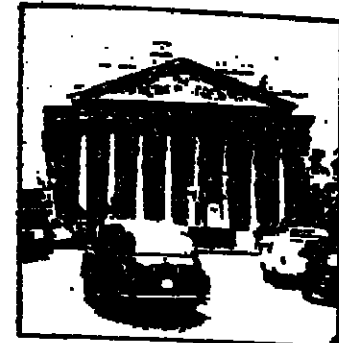
Home Affairs—misuse of hard drugs. Witness: HM Customs & Excise.

Public Accounts—Unemployment Benefit Service. Treasury and Civil Service sub-committee—Financial and economic consequences of UK Membership of the European Monetary System.

Witnesses: Edward Heath MP; Roy Jenkins MP; Denis Healey MP; David Howell MP; Bryan Gould MP.

Environment—Radioactive waste. Witnesses: Friends of the Earth, Town and Country Planning Association.

How monetarism landed Britain with the highest interest rates of top nations



ECONOMICS NOTEBOOK

Victor Keegan

THE AIR is thick with repentant, or backtracking, monetarism in the City, and even in Whitehall. Yet in an important sense monetarism was not a policy which was tried for a few years only to fail. It never really got to first base.

The government published

its medium term strategy in March 1980, with the aim of bringing about a progressive reduction in the growth of money in the economy in order to induce — two or three years later — a reduction in inflation. Well, five years on (would you believe it) the amount of money in the economy — that is cash in general circulation and bank deposits — is expanding faster (11½ per cent in May) than the target of between 7 and 11 per cent laid down for 1980 to 1981, the first year of the strategy.

The situation is actually even worse than this because of the Bank of England's passion for "overfunding". Instead of merely selling gilt-edged stocks (to pension funds and the like) to prevent government borrowing from expanding the money supply, the Old Lady has sold billions more in order to prevent the surge in private sector lending from pushing the money supply up even higher. Without such massaging of the markets the money supply figures would be even worse.

Yet, on the basis of the

1980 plan, the money supply should now be expanding at under 6 per cent instead of almost twice that.

Although the monetarist horse never managed to progress even into the starting stalls, inflation nevertheless came down from over 20 per cent to only 3.7 per cent in mid-1983. Since then it has been drifting back upwards.

One of the basic flaws in monetarism was the simplistic notion, which appealed to politicians, that there was an easily measured thing called the money supply which could be turned up or down like a thermostat. This was wrong for two reasons. First, it has proved embarrassing for economists to agree on what "money" really is for control purposes. The definition used above of cash and bank deposits (so called Sterling M3) has been the most widely accepted, even though it does not include building society deposits which account for almost half of our savings.

Recently the government has been trying to shift the City's attention to a much

narrower definition of money simply consisting of cash and notes in circulation plus the deposits which commercial banks leave with the Bank of England (M0) more of which later.

Even if you agree a definition of "money" the idea that you can control the supply of it is also mistaken. If the Bank of England stopped printing money there would be a massive shift into credit and, or a full blown financial crisis. All that the government can do is to try to control the demand for money mainly through its ability to influence interest rates. What passes as monetarism has really been an exercise in interest rate overkill in an attempt to reduce the demand for money and credit. And it is still going on.

Interest rates now are not only higher than when the government came into office in 1979 (notwithstanding the economic recovery and the benefits of North Sea oil) but also extremely high by world standards. UK interest rates are now a startling 6 per centage points above those in the US, Japan and

Germany despite the fact that America has to pay over the odds to fund the country's gargantuan budget deficit.

What puzzles some economists is why penal interest rates in the UK have not choked off the demand for money. Part of the answer is the perverse fact that the act of trying to reduce the money supply can actually increase it. High real (after allowing for inflation) interest rates have not stopped demand for industrial or house loans, but have attracted huge amounts of footloose funds into savings and building society accounts.

This, in turn, increases the money supply because banks for all its borrowing. Interest on borrowing is the fastest growing area of all government spending, having risen from £2.2 billion in 1979 to £7.5 billion this year. If keeping UK interest rates so high above world levels is so bad why do it? It is partly because the government thinks that the money supply would be even worse if interest rates were lowered — a proposition which is at least debatable in view of the perverse effects outlined above; and partly (and increasingly) because the government fears that lower interest rates is the UK would trigger a currency outflow which would depress sterling and therefore raise import prices and threaten to give a fresh impetus to inflation just at the time when the annual inflation rate (6.9 per cent) has been moving ominously upwards.

And of course the reduction of inflation is the ark of the covenant. It is the reason why we have had to suffer such severe unemployment.

If the government embarked on a policy which, at least in the short-term raised inflation, it would be manna from heaven for the Opposition. Yet, if you take the view that the pound is still overvalued against most currencies except the dollar, then the competitive boost from a weaker pound and lower interest rates would be considerable. It is a policy which should have been started as far back as 1960 when an overtight monetary policy was applied at a time when money was pouring into Britain because of our oil prospects

pushed sterling up to a ludicrous level.

Even now the risks attached to a policy of lower interest rates would be less than a continuing "expansionary" policy. Instead of taking such a risk the Chancellor is instead trying to persuade the City to take more notice of the narrow measure of money, M0 (cash and notes in circulation plus banks' balances at the Bank of England). This little fellow is an even more ludicrous measure of money on which to base changes in interest rates.

The money we hold in our pockets (overwhelmingly the biggest part of M0) can be influenced not only by fashion (like distaste for the new £1 coins), the weather during cold spells we may not want to make the trip to the cash machine) and by the huge swing towards plastic money. The idea of trying to control the vast pyramid of credit in the economy by what is happening to its cash tail is like trying to control the vast pyramid of credit in the economy by what is happening to its cash tail. It is the final fling of a policy which has always put canteens before people.

Talks could bring control of electronic share dealing group

Reuter plans \$100m stake in Instinet

By Andrew Cornelius

Reuters Holdings, the international news agency and business information group, is negotiating a \$100 million deal to take control of an American computer company which hopes to introduce a new electronic share dealing service in the UK.

Details of the discussions with Instinet Corporation, in the United States, were released by Reuters during the weekend.

The deal would give Reuters a controlling stake in Instinet's new automatic share trading system which may be launched in the UK in competition with the London Stock Exchange.

Reuters' latest takeover ambitions were revealed a matter of days after it pulled out of a rescue attempt for United Press International, the troubled United States news wire service.

A Reuters spokesman said that it was involved in preliminary discussions on buying a 20 per cent share stake in Instinet at \$25 a share, which

would cost between \$90 million and \$105 million (£22 million). Reuters said that the proposal also included the right to buy another 31 per cent of Instinet at \$32 a share.

The deal could be partly funded by issuing Reuters shares.

However, Reuters made it clear that the discussions were "preliminary" and "there was no assurance that the deal would be consummated."

Reuters already holds exclusive marketing rights for the Instinet system outside North America. Instinet's computer trading system allows automatic execution of orders for up to 1000 securities on the United States Stock Exchange and NASDAQ securities.

Reuters' supplies a wide range of services to business subscribers and the news media. It obtains information from 82 exchange floors, 1800 subscribers, and 658 full-time journalists, which is then distributed via 53,000 video terminals directly into clients' computers.

Harris buys into stores group

By Andrew Cornelius

HARRIS Queensway, the furniture, carpets and electrical group, yesterday confirmed that "within the past month" it had acquired a share stake in Debenhams, the department stores group which is fighting a £480 million takeover bid from Burton.

Mr Peter Davis, deputy chairman of Harris Queensway, said that the stake was less than 4½ per cent. He said that the group had no plans to enter the bidding for Debenhams, where it already has an agreement to sell electrical goods and furniture in Debenhams stores.

"I don't think that this alters our attitude to the situation at all," Mr Davis said. "We felt our position would be better safeguarded if we had a shareholding. It is also true that the price has risen since we bought our shares."

Harris Queensway has insisted that it would not take sides in the bid for Debenhams, and confirmed that this is still the case. News of the share purchases follows active share buying by the House of Fraser department stores group, owned by the Egyptian Al-Fayed brothers, which has a 5.19 per cent Debenhams stake.

Last week Harris Queensway agreed £21 million takeover terms for Rayfords Supreme Holdings.

Yesterday, Sir Terence Conran, chairman of Habitat 67, which has struck a deal with Burton to take 20 per cent of the Debenhams floor space if the Burton bid succeeds, announced a reorganisation of its own design business. Sir Terence said that he was bringing together Conran Associates, his own design company, with The Design Group, which works exclusively for Habitat, under the name of Conran Design Group.

The amalgamation would provide increased opportunities for work and prepare for the anticipated lucrative redesign contract for Debenhams stores, which has been promised by Sir Terence as part of the deal with Burton.

BCal's blow to Airbus

By David Simpson, Business Correspondent

Airbus Industrie, the European jet aircraft manufacturing rival to the US makers, Boeing and McDonnell Douglas, has suffered a blow through a decision by the private UK airline, British Caledonian, to sell the two Airbus A310s which it has purchased, scrap its agreement to buy a third, and cancel its options on three more.

But BCal was insistent this weekend that its decision has been completely dictated by changes to the airline's route network, rather than to any dissatisfaction with the A310.

On the contrary, a BCal spokesman said yesterday, the airline was "very delighted with the performance of its two A310s which had, if anything, exceeded the manufacturers' promises. And there was no question of BCal's refusing to proceed with its planned order for seven A320 short-haul aircrafts."

The A310 is fundamentally a

medium-haul plane, and since BCal first placed its order for three aircraft and took up an option for three more, in 1979, the airline's route profile has undergone substantial change.

Since the deterioration of relations between the UK and Libya, following the St James Square shooting, BCal has cut its number of weekly flights to the Libyan capital, Tripoli, from eight to three. Another important medium-haul route has been charter flights to the West Coast of Africa, where an increase in demand has forced the airline to replace its A310s with a larger passenger capacity than the A310.

BCal operates its A310s as 188-seat aircraft, and it now seems likely that it will prefer to use 260-seat DC10s as its West African routes.

The final straw was last summer's Civil Aviation Authority review of routes, which led ultimately to some interchange between BCal and British Airways. This included the launch, last month, of a BCal Gatwick to New York flight six days a week,

and which is eventually planned to be a twice daily service.

BCal also currently has an application before the CAA to run flights from Gatwick to Tokyo, which, if granted, would also require long-haul aircraft, rather than the A310s.

The airline's two A310s will remain in service through the 1985/86 winter before being put on the market. It is possible that the cancellation of the order for the third A310, which was due for delivery later this year, will leave BCal exposed to a penalty payment.

Most damagingly for Airbus Industrie, however, which is 20 per cent owned by the recently privatised British Aerospace group, is that it is to lose valuable orders to its US competitors.

BCal expects now to increase the number of DC10s and Boeing 747s in its fleet, with the DC10 expected to be chosen for its West African routes, while the 747 is likely to be the choice for the New York route, and for the Tokyo route.

Good crops put cocoa prices under pressure

COMMODITIES

Robin Stainer

Increasing signs of abundant cocoa crops this season — especially in West Africa — have recently begun to put downward pressure on world prices. The London market for instance, has dropped to its lowest level for nearly ten months, with cocoa for September delivery trading as low as £1,720 a tonne last week — more than £500 below the seven-year high touched in February.

The pound's improvement against the dollar in the past three months has contributed to this decline in sterling cocoa prices, but the biggest depressant has been the ever upward adjustments in estimates of this season's surplus.

In fact, at the start of the season six months ago, some forecasters were even predicting a small deficit this year. Then, as production prospects nearly everywhere began to look exceptionally good, a surplus seemed certain.

Last April, the London-based International Cocoa Organisation — noting the likelihood of record output from the Ivory Coast, Brazil and Malaysia and foreseeing significant improvements almost everywhere else — revised its earlier forecast of a shortfall in 1984-85 and estimated a surplus of 88,000 tonnes. About the same time, Gill & Duffus, one of the leading independent analysts, raised its estimate of the surplus to 70,000 tonnes from 8,000. Some traders now reckon the figure would be up to 30,000 bigger than this.

In the past few months, prospects are all the leading West African producing countries appear to have improved even further, thanks to almost perfect growing conditions for cocoa. Recent rains, meanwhile, have boosted expectations for the upcoming, smaller mid-season crops. Quality, moreover, is said to be good.

Late last month, the US Department of Agriculture estimated total 1984-85 Ivorian production at 525,000 tonnes, up 50,000 tonnes on its February forecast and well above the estimates made by other sources in April.

Estimates of production in Cameroon and Ghana have also recently been raised. Helped by this season's good weather,

Ghana appears to have succeeded in reversing the lengthy decline of its cocoa sector, which had taken the country from top of the production league back in the mid-1970s to third place last season. Plantations are being rehabilitated with financial assistance from the World Bank, and the government last month announced new production incentives, including a higher guaranteed price to growers, which goes up by nearly 90 per cent this week.

The 1984-85 Ghanaian crop is currently estimated at 170,000-180,000 tonnes, with local officials favouring the top end of the range. The government's aim is to boost production to 300,000 tonnes.

Malaysia, which has increased production by tenfold in as many years, is expecting a crop of 100,000 tonnes this season and hopes to be harvesting twice as much again by the end of the decade. Ecuador and Mexico, meanwhile, are also likely to do better this season than last.

While prospects almost everywhere else have been improving in recent months, worries have recently begun to surface about the current Brazilian Temporo crop. Traders report that heavy rains last month damaged flowers on the bushes and may bring an increased risk of disease. Although some analysts have scaled down their earlier estimates, the crop is still expected to produce about a million bags more than last year's poor, drought-hit yield of 1.8 million bags of 60 kilos each.

Traders say that the size of the Temporo crop is now the critical factor in estimating this season's world supply and demand balance. If it reaches three million bags or more then a world surplus possibly as large as 100,000 tonnes will look a fairly assured prospect.

A further uncertainty in the market comes from the doubts about the future of the International Cocoa Agreement. This pact, which expires in October, is powerless to regulate supplies and prices but holds 100,000 tonnes of cocoa bought several years ago before market intervention buying was abandoned for want of money.

A third attempt by cocoa-trading nations to negotiate a new pact, which would take over control of the stockpile, ended in failure in March, with no date set for another try. Talks to determine whether there is a basis for further negotiations are to be held in London next month.

Soviet oil export surge puts squeeze on Opec

By James Ertlichman

The vice now squeezing the Opec oil cartel is tightened today by a forecast that falling demand for oil in the OECD nations is being met by a surge in Soviet exports of crude oil to the world markets.

Opec cut its output to a record low of 15.4 million barrels a day, according to the monthly oil market report of the International Energy Agency based in Paris.

But the projected fall in OECD demand and the rise in Soviet exports can only serve to weaken the spot market where North Sea Brent crude fetches around \$26 a barrel on Friday.

The IEA report shows that oil consumption in OECD countries is expected to have fallen by 2 per cent in the second quarter of 1985 as compared with the previous year.

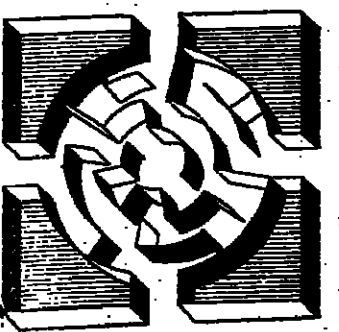
Moderate growth in consumption is expected in the second half of the year, but the underlying trend for the year is still downward.

Overall, the world supply of oil from Opec and the West is estimated to have fallen marginally by 4.8 mbd in the second quarter.

But the major oil companies, which believe a price fall is imminent, added to the oil glut by reducing their stocks by 2.2 mbd in the first quarter of 1985. They resumed small purchases for stocks in the second quarter, but the IEA predicts that Soviet exports will rise substantially.

The Russians recently attempted to lower their official price for Urals blend by \$1 to \$27 a barrel, but customers refused to buy, and spot cargoes of Russian oil have been trading hands at \$26 a barrel.

How the Post Office is trying to catch up



CONSUMER COLUMN

Rosemary Collins

WHEN the Consumers' Association carried out a survey of postal deliveries last October, they found that an astonishing 42 per cent of first class letters posted over a long distance failed to reach their destination on the following day.

The other results were disappointing, too, for Post Office users. Only 78 per cent of second class letters posted had arrived by the third day after posting. The Post Office's own targets are that 90 per cent of first class and 86 per cent of second

class mail should arrive by, respectively, the first and third day after posting.

The association's survey involved 300 volunteer subscribers, and 6,000 letters, half of them post-coded and 10 per cent of them in large envelopes. Neither the post codes, nor the size of envelopes, made any difference to the speed of delivery.

The Post Office reacted indignantly to the association's claims, which appear in the latest issue of Which? magazine.

During the two weeks of the survey there was industrial action in six sorting offices, delays to travelling post office trains (the kind on which letters are sorted as they move around), and industrial action by staff at Gatwick airport, Post Office spokesman said.

The other main Which? finding, that 20 per cent of people interviewed were highly dissatisfied with the counter service at post offices, mainly because of long queues, was also because of untidy conditions, the spokesman insisted. The questions were asked during February, when queues were highly visible, and queues were exceptionally long as pensioners and mothers queued to obtain new payment books for their pensions and child benefits.

If the Consumers' Association

had carried out its letter survey and sampled public mail delivery services recently, instead of publishing results last week several months after the research work was done, the findings would have been very different, the Post Office maintained.

In fact, the Post Office was appalled by its own checks on postal deliveries towards the end of 1984. Each month it monitors the speed of delivery of 150,000 letters, randomly selected by computer, and in October the results were particularly bad, although not as bad as those in the smaller Consumers' Association survey.

As a result, the great 1985 initiative to speed the mail was set in motion. The Post Office chairman bought a vast new space on Channel 4 in January to announce the campaign to the more than 100,000 postal staff he employs. (He does not assume that they all watch Channel 4, and they were all told in advance when to tune in.)

Forty network inspectors have been appointed to travel around pinpointing problems, identifying bottlenecks, and trying to ensure that the mail hits its target, according to the Post Office spokesman. Postal staff have been offered prizes for ideas on how to improve efficiency, and during March and April this year £20,000

in prize money was paid out.

When the next quarterly official figures are published later this month, there is some soundly-based optimism in Post Office circles that they will show that, over very recent months, the 90 per cent and 96 per cent targets have been met.

Local deliveries, of course, always arrive much faster than long distance mail, and the Post Office points out that 60 per cent of all the letters it handles travel less than 40 miles. "If you post a letter first class in a remote Cornish hamlet, addressed to an island off the coast of Scotland, that letter has to travel by bike, van, train, van, train, boat and then bike again and it is completely unrealistic to expect it to complete that journey in less than 24 hours," the spokesman says. In other words, the success rate will never be 100 per cent.

But there are other reasons for the discrepancy between the Consumers' Association test results, and the rosier picture which emerges from Post Office headquarters.

The monthly sampling of 150,000 letters carried out on the instructions of the Post Office computer, charts their progress only from the moment they are postmarked at their first delivery office,


until they are sorted for delivery at the office closest to their final destination. It takes no account of how long they stay in the post box, or the collection van, or the tray awaiting delivery, and it does not check whether they are eventually delivered through the right letterbox.

"The alternative system of checking would be very expensive," says the Post Office.

As far as the Post Office counter service is concerned, the Consumers' Association suggestions of more single queuing systems, and counters selling only stamps or only handing out pensions, meet with little approval.

Only one in five post office customers go in just to buy stamps, according to the records. Most go in with a long shopping list: pension, television stamps, dog licence, postal order as well as postage stamps. There would be strong consumer resistance to counters designated for the sale of single items, the Post Office believes.

The single queuing system is already widespread, and planned to spread further, installed already in 720 Crown (main) Post Offices, which is half the total number in that category. There are plans to spend a further £25 million refurbishing post offices over the next three years,



DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR
REPUBLIC OF

ALGERIA

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND CHEMICAL AND
PETROCHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

NATIONAL OIL WELL COMPANY
(ENTREPRISE NATIONALE DES TRAVAUX AUX PUTS)

INTERNATIONAL CALL TO TENDER —
UNRESTRICTED No. 600/K/MF

The National Oil Well Company is launching an Open International Invitation to Tender for the supply of:

— CONSIGNMENT OF HIGH PRESSURE WELDERS
INCLUDING FLANGES, TORUS JOINTS, GUDGEONS, UNION
JOINTS, CASING, REDUCTION PLUGS, T.E.S., CRANKS

Those applicants interested in this offer may obtain specifications from the following address:

Entreprise Nationale des Travaux aux Puits (ENTP), 16 Route de Mefah, Oued Smar, El Harrach, Alger, Algeria, on payment of the sum of 400 Algerian dinars as from the publication date of this notice.

Offers drawn up in five (5) copies must be sent in double sealed and registered packet to the Secretariat de la Direction des Approvisionnements (Supplies Division) at the above address.

The outer envelope must be anonymous, carrying no marking except the endorsement: 'APPEL A LA CONCURRENCE INTERNATIONALE OUVERT No. 600/K/MF'.

Offers must arrive at the latest within 45 days after the first publication of this notice.

Option period shall be 180 days as from the closing date of this invitation to Tender.

Matthew Engel on the England 12 for the first Test at Headingley

Emburey in from cold

CRICKET

THE ENGLAND 12 to start the season on Thursday at Headingley on the first Test at Headingley is just one of the surprises of the season, and that is hardly a shock to regular followers of selection. Phil Edmonds, vice-captain of the attack in India, has been dropped to permit the inclusion of two off-spinners, and that is hardly a shock to regular followers of selection. Phil Edmonds, vice-captain of the attack in India, has been dropped to permit the inclusion of two off-spinners, and that is hardly a shock to regular followers of selection.

The bulk of the party was chosen with little dissent, and will evoke little dissent. Everyone will be sorry to see Fowler go. It is both rough and rare for a player to be dropped two Tests after scoring a double hundred. Hardstaff in 1946 seems to be the precedent, but there can be no doubt that Fowler has lost form and not much more. Robinson is the better counter-argument to Gooch. However, the mess over the spinners will cause controversy, though this time Edmonds' exclusion does not appear to be anything personal. No one has suggested that he has been sledging Thomson or trying to reverse sweep. Rather, the whole thing appears to be a compromise between the chairman of the selectors, Peter May, and the selectors to include the best off-spinner in the country, Emburey, as a counter to Australia's profusion of left-handers and Gower's urge to include his

county vice-captain Willey as a back-up bowler and batsman. The greatest quality Willey will bring to the side is courage. He is the nearest thing English cricket now has to a batsman. One hopes his attitude will infect the team. It would be better if it could spread to the captain and selectors.

Quite likely, Edmonds' absence will not matter a jot this season. In the past 10 years he has taken 100 wickets in the grand total of 20 Tests. The last to make a significant impact was Edmonds himself, on his debut in 1975.

And the Emburey theory is conventional enough, though Edmonds appears to be bowling the better of the two. To make a major contribution at Headingley, it would more likely be a left-arm turner than a right-handers off-spinner. The latter is beyond question, rather than anyone doing anything spectacular with off-breaks. Well, all right, Edmonds would very likely have been there anyway. Let us save our whinges until we try and leave him out of the Lord's Test. What is really

depressing is the inclusion of Willey as the potential No. 7—not because he is a bad player, though his indifferent record against Australian bowlers has not been enhanced by 12, tonight and two so far this summer. But here we are, the start of the series: Gower newly

able piece of history that may be relevant. In the opening Test of the 1988 series England played only three front-line bowlers, Snow, Higgs and Pocock, and had D'Oliveira and Knott at seven and eight, collapsed horribly twice (in these over-stuffed batting teams players seem to imagine they can safely leave things to the others) lost the Test and, effectively, their chance of reclaiming the Ashes from a much weaker side.

The selectors have some faith in Gooch's ability to swing the ball, and Foster may well be left out on Thursday. In that case Emburey, who made almost 800 runs for Middlesex in 1984, would be batting No. 9, which is great except that Cowans, Allott and Botham will be the only other front-line bowlers. Botham, apparently, had a dreadful time at Bath on Saturday.

One last thought on the batting: Right now, England could field a second team starting something like Fowler, Laxton, Tavaré, Nicholas, one of the in-form Hampshire Smiths and Randall, that would compare quite respectably to some recent Test teams.

Test 12's averages compiled by Bill Frindall

	Runs	Wickets	Strike Rate	Wicket Rate
Batsmen				
A. J. Allott (Leeds)	100	1	100.00	100.00
M. G. Laker (Leeds)	100	1	100.00	100.00
P. D. Collins (Leeds)	100	1	100.00	100.00
Bowlers				
A. J. Allott (Leeds)	100	1	100.00	100.00
M. G. Laker (Leeds)	100	1	100.00	100.00
P. D. Collins (Leeds)	100	1	100.00	100.00

CRICKET SCOREBOARD

John Player League

Somerset v. Gloucestershire

BATH: Somerset (Apts) beat Gloucestershire by 63 runs.

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Glamorgan v. Worcs

Worcestershire by 22 runs

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Henry Blofeld

at Leicester

Gower's act too hard to follow

IT WAS chilly and damp at Grace Road yesterday and there was no-one to play an innings like David Gower's 135 on Saturday. Leicester took their score to 454 in the morning, and the Australians then batted carefully until the end of a day which had lost 129 minutes to rain when they reached 135.

Whatever else happens in their last match before Thursday's first Test, nothing will be as important or as exciting as Gower's innings on Saturday. It was the perfect follow-up to his 100 against Australia at Lord's last Monday. On that occasion he showed a steady side of his character, and along the way he had had the luck of an out-of-form batsman needs to put things right.

Of course, those selicitous strokes, the product of a wonderful sense of timing were there too, but more intermittently than on Saturday when he batted just about as well as ever. The pitch was extremely slow and although it was no help to the fast bowlers, Gower made Thomson, Lawson, McDermott and the spinners seem immanently manageable.

These lovely, flowing, elegant strokes were all there, with the wisky cuts and hooks, and one can only have filled the tourists with a sense of foreboding.

Gower's return to form can only increase England's chances appreciably in the first Test match. The confidence these runs have given him can only help to make him more confident and assertive captain.

In this innings Gower took full advantage of that first 100 at Lord's. Two of his strokes more than any other showed that he has finally come out of the batting horror. The last 100 at Lord's was a drive off McDermott, played through extra cover and hit on the rise. It was a shot which showed how genuine one can make a mass of accepted batting floggings.

A back-foot force through the covers of Lawson was not far behind. Border and his Australians will have been most anxious to dismiss Gower cheaply on Saturday. As it is he has won an important psychological advantage at a crucial time.

On the second day, after Leicester's last four wickets had added another 69 runs, the Australians batted quietly on between the showers. Hoggins kept his head down for 100 as he hit his second 50 of the tour without making a serious challenge for a place at Headingley. Boon played some strong off-drives and is probably the Australians' best bat at No. 3; Ritchie drove Willey on to the Australian balcony while a slight groin strain kept Border in the pavilion. Bain finally intervened with 80 minutes left.

Bob Fisher

Walker salvages win

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JPL round-up

Yorkshire wrecked by Imran

IMRAN KHAN, bowling in two extremely fast spells, gave Sussex a 36-run win and stopped Yorkshire going to the top of the John Player League at Abbeydale Park yesterday when the city of Sheffield staged its first ever limited-over match.

Sussex, put in, were confined to 197 for six from their 40 overs.

Imran's opening five overs yielded only nine runs and the wickets of Metcalfe, perfectly caught at slip by the diving Barclay, and Sharp taken behind. He returned with the fourth-wicket partnership of Metcalfe and Bairstow had yielded 85 runs in 14 overs, and after he had Bairstow taken at deep mid-off a pull and knocked back Hardisty's 26, Sussex were two overs which were dismissed for 161.

Another Pakistani, Javed Miandad, hit 55 not out in 21 overs with three sixes and eight fours, to help Gormston to a 22-run victory over Worcestershire at Ebbw Vale.

Derbyshire bowled only 14 balls in a 15-minute period at Lord's and were four deliveries short of the 20 overs needed for a result when rain drove the players off for the third time. But they returned after tea and Middlesex resumed their innings to win on faster scoring rate, both Graham Barlow and Wilf Slack recording their highest Sunday scores of the summer in an unbroken opening stand

David Lacey—Mexico 1, England 0

England fall to third straight loss

SOCCER

England practically exhausted their small fund of optimism at the Aztec Stadium yesterday when they lost 1-0 to Mexico in the last of three games in the World Cup finals. It was the third successive defeat for Bobby Robson's team, and the first time this has happened to an England side since a Latin American tour 26 years ago.

Now as then the unwelcome hat-trick was completed by the Mexicans who yesterday confirmed their present status as an invincible and well-organised side but one that in world terms is still hardly inspiring. On the day, however, their football proved too accurate and Waddle, and late in the much-changed England team that never played with the conviction shown in losing un-

lucky to Italy.

England's football was often much more myopic. The players looked very tired at the finish but in these conditions good passing is essential to avoid wasted running. England drained a lot of their energy pursuing hopeless balls.

Robson, Wilkins and Hoddle never seriously wrested control of the midfield from Negrete, Hoy, Espinoza and Aguilar. They were closely and effectively marked and Francis pursued and perspired to little effect. Eventually Wilkins and Barnes gave way to Reid, winning his first England cap, and Waddle, and late in the match, another fresh player, Dixon, came on for Hoddle. But the changes proved purely nominal and England finished the match regretting a number of chances missed in the first half.

England's two previous encounters with the Mexicans in Mexico had been unimpressive and largely unproductive — a 2-1 defeat in 1959 and a goalless draw 10 years later.

England made six changes from the side which had started the match against Italy but these should hardly have weakened the team. Fenwick and Watson resumed last summer's South American tour partnership at centre-back and Anderson returned at right-back. Waddle is also being flanked by international experience. Hoddle and Barnes, whose introduction in the second half had revived the team last Thursday, kept their places and Bailey replaced Shilton in goal for some altitude.

It was clear before long that

SPORT IN BRIEF

Pendry is world champion

HANG GLIDING: John Pendry, a 27-year-old pilot from Brighton, yesterday became Britain's first individual world champion, and Britain regained the team title, beating 240 pilots from 34 countries competing in the Austrian-organised event.

WATER SKIING: After finishing fourth overall, his worst position for several years, Mike Hazlewood, Britain's premier water skier for the past decade, criticised the organisers of the KP British Masters at Princes Club, Bedford, where the jumping section was decided on the aggregate distance of the best out of four jumps rather than the longest.

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